

National Library of Latvia

Annual Report to the CENL 2002/2003 –04-14

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Collection (01.01.2003)
In comparison with 2002 the collection has increased to 13 162 items.

Total holdings 4 478 424 items

Among them:

Books 1 978 981

Serials 747 950

Audio visual documents 59 799

Microforms 113 365

Cartographic documents 15 369

Printed music 21 166

Graphics 228 864

E- documents 549

Manuscripts 19 638

Unpublished documents 1 501

Other documents 984 263

Readership 36 174 (including 5 554 remote readers)

The number of readers has decreased due to the changes in the accounting system and the implementation of the unified readers card.

Visits 496 835

Loans 2 182 649

3. Finance and Funding

In 2002 the Library's financial position was as follows:

The rate of currency to 01.2003 is 1 Lats =0, 594 USD
2002

USD

State budget 733 592

Payment services 27 327

Grants 13 178

Sum granted by the Culture Capital Foundation 148 295

Income in total 862 184

Expenses (a+b)

1. salary fund 341 669

2. insurance tax 81 145

3. business trips 7 952

3a. services 405 524

4. purchase of materials for IT 11 880

5. purchase of the Library collection 100 875

books 75 028

periodicals 21 647

e-publications 3 245

other documents 955

Inflation made 1,4% in 2002 (compare with 3,2% in 2001, 2,6 % in 2000).

In 2002 the level of inflation was the lowest since the renewal of independence in Latvia, 1991.

4. Legal Deposit

In 2002 the National Library of Latvia has received 43 221 legal deposit copies, total sum 32 560 USD (in 2001 25 000 USD). The increase to attract more money for purchasing books is considerable -14 535 Ls.

7. New Building and Plant

On June 13,2002 the project for the new building of the National Library of Latvia has been approved at the 3rd reading in the Latvian Parliament (Saeima), passing the Law on Building the National Library of Latvia.

The 3rd meeting of the International Commission of Experts (ICE) took place on December 16-17, 2002 in Riga.

The objectives of the 3rd meeting were to acquaint the participants with architectural changes made in the project of the new National Library of Latvia taking into account the suggestions expressed at the 2nd meeting, to clarify the financing mechanism and to evaluate the progress made in implementing the project.

The Commission stressed that the National Library of Latvia has to complete the project development phase and do its utmost to build the new Library at the same time providing services to its users and other libraries.

7a. Repair work. New premises

In 2002 the Reserve and Exchange Collection moved from 5 Anglikanu Street to 221 Brivibas Street.

In 2002 the departments in 6/8 Jekaba Street underwent improvement of public services and facilities, especially the Department of Letonica where new computers were installed, as well as new fire protection system.

The main cataloguing hall and the Centre of Registration are repaired in 14 Kr.Barona Street.

9.Conservation and Preservation. Digitisation.

The priority of the NLL is using digitisation as a method for preserving the cultural heritage stored in the collection of the National Library of Latvia. In 2002 three CD of the newspaper Ventas Balss (1921-1945) and 13 CD of the newspaper Dienas Lapa (1886-1900) were made. On December 18-20, 2002 the Workshop on Preservation of Digital Heritage supported by UNESCO took place in Riga, focusing on identifying the role of preservation of digital heritage in the Baltic States, promoting the possibilities of co-operation among different states and sharing experience in this branch. The Workshop resulted in acceptance of Riga Revised Preliminary Draft Charter on the Continuity of the Digital Heritage and Guidelines for the

Preservation of the Digital Heritage.

After having acquired experience in the libraries of Switzerland a poster project - Save a Book has been realised at the Department of Restoration.

10 Main Advances in IT and New Technologies

In the period of report the implementation of the system ALEPH 500 has been productive resulting in 233 200-book entries recorded in the electronic catalogue.

The database of analytics of the National Bibliography consisting of 1 000 000 bibliographic descriptions, as well as the database of authorities consisting of 112 500 records is created.

The work at the project “Retroconversion of Latvian Bibliography” in co-operation with the firm SWH- Technologies continues.

Projects

The National Library of Latvia participates at the international projects CELIB, LIBEKOM, PULMAN, NAPLE.

The Department of Restoration is continuing the implementation of the project “Heritage –1: Preservation of Latvian Periodicals (1822-1940).”

The Baltic Central Library is creating a visual database “Riga from the End of the 19th Century until the End of World War II”.

11. Services to Readers

Document Delivery system is available to users.

The number of e- documents has increased considerably.

Access to electronic catalogs has increased and the number of card catalogs has decreased.

12. Exhibitions

In 2002 the Library has performed 29 exhibitions (19 outside the Library), attended by 15 303 visitors. In the period or report the Library has changed the policy of arranging exhibitions focusing of the actuality of a subject and avoiding short-term projects.

The exhibitions particularly worthy of attention were: Manga- a Traditional Japanese Caricature;

Jewish Community in Latvia;

The 16th –18th Century Maps in the Collection of the National Library of Latvia;

Kalevipoeg- an Ancient Estonian Tale;

Canadian Children’s Books;

Latvia and Terbata University has been displayed at Tartu University, the National Library of Estonia in Tallinn and is going to travel to academic centres in Latvia.

13. Publishing

The Bibliography Institute has published the proceedings National Bibliography: From Print to the Digital Age.

The calendar of the NLL has been issued Three Centuries of Maps from the Map Collection of the National Library of Latvia:1500-1800.

The collection of articles Rarities is compiled. It is envisaged to publish in 2003.

Owing to the support of the NLL and the Culture Capital Foundation the bibliography of bibliographies Bibliographic Means about Latvia:1996-2000 is published

A range of publications could be seen in domestic and foreign periodicals and proceedings of certain institutions.

14. Standards

In 2002 two international standards ISMN and ISO 4 Rules For the Abbreviation of Title Words and Titles of Publications and a normative document Latviešu Valodas Vardu un

Vardu Savienojumu Isinašana Bibliografiskaja Apraksta were published and adopted as Latvian standards

15. Library Co-operation

On March 7, 2003 the bilateral co-operation agreement between the Slovak National Library and the National Library of Latvia was concluded.

16. Staffing Matters and Structure

On January 1, 2003 the Library employed 391 staff members: among them 325 librarians and housekeeping personnel. 24 librarians were dismissed and 15 hired and 8 housekeeping personnel were dismissed and 8 hired.

17. Events

On April 25-26, 2002 the first e- MAL conference “ Co-operation of Museums, Archives and Libraries in the Electronic Era-Experience, Reality, Strategies for the Future” took place in Riga, bringing all three-branch specialists from the Baltic Sea countries together for the first time.

On May, 2002 the NLL participated at Warsaw Book Fair focusing on Latvian- Polish cultural ties.

On September 6-7, 2002 Gunnar Birkerts presented the project for the new National Library of Latvia at Venice Biennial.

On September 12-13, 2002 the conference National Bibliography: From Print to the Digital Age took place in Riga.

On October 10-11, 2002 the NLL organized the international project Pulman seminar “Latvian Libraries, Archives and Museums in Digital Crossroads”.