

**NATIONAL AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY “KLIMENT OHRIDSKI”-SKOPJE,
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

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ANNUAL REPORT

The Program tasks of the National and University Library “Kliment Ohridski” have been realized with the financial support by the Ministry of Culture of Macedonia (94%) and the Ministry of Science (6%) regarding the projects of the Referral Center.

The activities were carried out under specific circumstances due to:

- decreased number of professional staff who left the NUL in accordance with the temporary act for advance retirement
- fluctuation of specific professional staff due to their taking up jobs in another institutions
- prohibition for new employment in state organizations and administration
- paying additional care for protection of the building and the library stock in conditions of terrorists' actions
- engagement of all employees by introducing 24 hour service

Acquisition of library materials

After several years of standstill in purchasing new titles of publications from abroad, the National and University Library “Kliment Ohridski”- Skopje has received funds for buying foreign publications. In this way the library holdings were enriched. The titles were chosen on the basis of the needs of Bibliographical Centre. Thus, the processing of Macedonian national bibliographies “Makedonika”-bulletin and “Makedonika”-bibliography was enabled. A subscription to a small number of foreign serial publications has been made. The choice of periodical titles was made in accordance with the status of the national institutions in the Republic of Macedonia. Therefore, titles from humanities and social sciences were taken into consideration.

One part of the finances was used for purchasing publications of Macedonian publishing production that have been planned for gift and exchange program.

With regards to the NUL's statutory obligation to maintain an archive of Macedonian publishing production, some additional mechanisms were put forward in order to find out and collect the titles of the country publishing output from the previous years that are missing from the library stocks (they might have not been supplied or have been lost). Hereby, we would like to point out that NUL has regularly faced difficulties in completing the legal deposit and has been concerned that the collections are becoming remarkably incomplete. In this respect a suggestion has been made to the Ministry of Culture to initiate the revision of

the Act for legal deposit where more adequate solutions should be added in order to enhance the functioning of this Act.

Also, the text of the *Codes of Practice for the Voluntary Deposit of Electronic Publications* was translated into Macedonian language and sent to the Ministry of Culture so that the question about legal deposit of electronic publications can be reviewed and included in the existing legislation regarding the statutory obligations of the national libraries to collect and preserve the published material in their country.

Processing of library materials

Special attention has been paid to timely processing of newly acquired library materials in order to make them accessible to the Library users. Nevertheless, there is one part of unprocessed material, which is due to the lack of staff and impossible intervention by the available employees because of specificity of the processes.

The Sector for accessing and processing of library materials has finalized the two very essential manuals for everyday work. The Regulations for Subject Processing of library materials have been prepared. And, also after several years' stagnation in the processing of ephemera, the collection of this type of materials has been reactivated and a manual containing regulations that provide criteria for selection, collection and processing of this collection has been prepared. Adaptation of the library software for the purpose of automated processing of this type of material is planned. The main aim is getting records of Macedonian life and customs, cultural and national events and issues of national concern.

Bibliographic activity

The continuity in preparation of Macedonian bibliography (series 1, 2 and 3) has been maintained. Ten volumes of bibliographies (monographs, articles and periodicals) have been processed and published. The Commission, comprised of 5 members, professionals from the Library and from other institutions, prepared Regulations for the processing of national bibliographies "Makedonika"-bulletin and "Makedonika" – bibliography.

Automation

At the end of 2001 a new version of the existing software (COBISS) for automation of one part of library processes, which contains the module for cooperative cataloguing, has been installed. This module enables cooperative processing of library material among the institutions that already use this software (5 Institutes within the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Informatics – Skopje, Central Library - Bitola, Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the National and University Library – Skopje). The functioning and maintaining of the local computer network within the Library as well as the exit to Internet with the existing software products and peripheral appliances was made difficult due to lack of competent staff.

Digitisation

In the course of 2001 the second part of "Old Slavonic manuscripts in Macedonia" on CD-ROM has been completed and the work on the third part of the CD-ROM has started. Also, the second part of the electronic publication on INTERNET, which will present a part of the Old Slavonic manuscripts on INTERNET, is in preparation. Some of the manuscripts can already be seen on the Internet (configuration on the web address is necessary, it is now 194.149.131.50).

Investment program/Library building

The financial support in accordance with the investment program of the Library gave solution to three big problems. In this way the reconstruction of the Library elevators has been done; with the reconstruction of the transport belt the circulation of the library material from the stores to the library users has been made faster and easier and a photocopier has been purchased. The space problem of the Library still remains. Special chests were bought for storing archival copies.

Publishing activity

Twelve bibliographies have been printed out and The Dictionary of Geographical Toponymies in Macedonia has been published in 2001.

The second part of the CD-ROM "Old Slavonic manuscripts in Macedonia", has been realized in cooperation with the Department for Informatics and Computer Techniques within the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Skopje.

Cultural activities

The cultural activities were of various types. In the course of 2001, 12 exhibitions were organized on special topics such as "Hungarian heraldry and symbols", "The Creative spirit of Macedonian home", "The Translation - a bridge between Macedonia and France", "Forty years Struga Poetry Evenings" etc.; 9 launchings of works of Macedonian authors and 4 lectures were organized, and 3 important dates has been celebrated (World Book and Copyright Day, World Tolerance Day). All of them aroused great interest and publicity.

International cooperation

Continuity has been kept regarding membership in International associations (IFLA, CENL, ISSN, IAML). The NUL has been granted 3-year membership in LIBER.

Three representatives participated in the IFLA Annual Conference in Boston. The Director of the NUL took part in the CENL Conference in Riga. The librarian who is in charge of ISBN Agency took part at the regular conference of ISBN Agencies, which was held in Brussels.

Three librarians participated in the Conference of Balkan National Libraries in Belgrade where many interesting papers were presented. A representative from the NUL participated in the first meeting of the members of the project "Multilingual Access to Subject Headings", which was held in Ljubljana, R. Slovenia.

Seminars and Conferences

The NUL participated in the project Development of School libraries in Macedonia, which was financed by the Institute Open Society-Macedonia. The seminars were organized for the librarians from the school libraries throughout Macedonia. Several professionals from NUL held a series of lectures on topics from librarianship. The lectures were held in the Training Center for librarians and library users within the NUL.

At the end of 2001 a seminar for training of librarians on handling with library application COBISS was organized. The librarians from libraries that use this software (National and University Library, Macedonian Academy for Sciences and Arts, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Central Library from Bitola) were trained on the operations connected with cooperative cataloguing.