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Name of country: Sweden
Name of library: National Library of Sweden (Kungliga biblioteket, “KB”)
Name of Chief Executive: Gunilla Herdenberg
Name of contact person for international matters: Gunilla Herdenberg
Mailing address: P.O. Box 5039, SE-102 41 Stockholm, Sweden
Telephone: +46 10 709 30 00
Web address of the Library: <http://www.kb.se>
E-mail address for contacting the library: Kungl.biblioteket@kb.se
Personal contact, e-mail: firstname.surname@kb.se

The National Library of Sweden - a summary of 2017

Introduction by the National Librarian

The National Library’s (KB) collections link history with the present. We carry the memory of society and facilitate discoveries and understanding of origin and context. It is obviously about researchers who use KB’s collections, but also about journalists and other users who seek facts that in some cases are only preserved here at the National Library.

Updating the law on legal deposits

We do not know what in our collections will be important in the future. That is why a functioning *law on legal deposit*, where we collect all that is published, is so important. In September, we handed our study *Plikten framför allt! (the Duty above all!)* to the Government. The study found that today's legislation has major shortcomings and must be revised. More and more publication types cannot be collected. For copyright reasons, the electronically collected material is only available in KB's premises in Stockholm. This makes research on the country's higher institutions more difficult. This is an issue that needs continued attention.

Proposals for a national library strategy are being developed

It is important that there is a good library service for the citizens all over the country and in all life events. During the year, the Secretariat for a national library strategy presented its major monitoring report *The fifth state power*. The extensive documentation is now the basis for the continued work. A first version of the strategy proposal will be presented in May 2018, and then finalized in March 2019. The report highlights several key issues concerning library development. Democracy, education, digitization and accessibility are some of the keywords.

Open Access

A year ago, KB was commissioned to coordinate the important work for open access to scientific publications. Research results should be searchable and available as compatible and reusable. Here, a broad work has begun, where several different actors collaborate.

Vision 2025

"In a time characterized by advanced information technology and increased internationalization, Sweden is a precursor in terms of accessibility and use of text, image and sound." This is how our vision for the year 2025 begins. The vision clarifies what we want to accomplish and in order for it to become reality, we have focused on six focus areas. 2017 was our first year of operation based on Vision 2025.

The benefits of our collections and services arise, when used. By doing so, we contribute to research and democratic social development.



Gunilla Herdenberg
National Librarian



Photo: Helena Anderhag, KB

Vision 2025 and target image 2020

In 2016, the National Library worked to develop the internal control model. Based on the instruction, the management team formulated *Vision 2025*. For the vision to come true, a three-year target image for 2017-2019 was developed. The target image contains six priority focus areas:

- ✓ More should use more
- ✓ Greater access to digitized material
- ✓ Clarity in collection building
- ✓ Libraries are an important community resource
- ✓ Enhanced focus on skills
- ✓ Collaborative culture with user focus - one KB

In conjunction with the vision work, also a new model for multi-year business planning was introduced. The aim was to achieve a simplified and more effective planning and follow-up process with more focus on strengthening the role of crosscutting.

The new model means that a thorough business plan is carried out every three years, when the target image is also reviewed. In the years in between, focus is on follow-up and adjustment of activities.

Collecting

Target image 2020

To the performance area **collect**, targets can be linked that focus on clarity in collection building.

KB wants to highlight:

A review of the law on legal deposit has been completed and handed over to the Government.

The number of e-duty packages delivered, i.e. files including metadata, has increased by 70 percent since the previous year.

Law on legal deposit is being reviewed

In the 2017 letter of regulation, KB was commissioned to conduct a study that would highlight the current publishing and media landscape today, focusing on the ability of the legal deposit libraries to gather and make available relevant publications. The study *Plikten framför allt!* (*the Duty above all!*) was handed over to the Government Offices on September 30, 2017.

The study shows that today's legislation has major deficiencies and needs to be revised. The deficiencies are based partly on the fundamental differences between the Act (1993:1392) *on legal deposit of printed material* and the Act (2012:492) *on legal deposit of e-material*, and partly because the legislation in its entirety is in violation of media development.

The result is an illogical and gradual collecting, where more and more types of publication cannot be collected, and where the electronic material can be accessed from KB's premises only. A starting point for a revision of the law must be that the principles for what to collect are format and media independent, and that society's access to legal deposit material is radically improved.

Legal deposits of printed material

In the year 2017 a certain decline in the inflow of the printed material was noted. This applies to magazines as well as maps, pictures of various types and music prints. It is too early to judge whether there is a downward trend or a temporary decline.

Legal deposit of electronic materials

There are a total of 531 municipalities and government authorities under the e-mandate. Fifty percent of these are now registered.

The law interpretation work during the year focused mainly on concrete questions about the suppliers' materials but also on whether phenomena such as influencers and podcasters can be considered publishers. During the year, various efforts have been made to secure the connection rate of, for example, authorities.

The number of deliveries is steadily increasing. During the year, nearly three million approved e-duty packages were received. A package can be a newspaper article, a web television element, a dissertation, government report, film or an e-book with associated metadata. Most come via automatic deliveries from the major publishers.

Acquisition of non-delivery material

Foreign literature

The foreign acquisition that KB has conducted has maintained a stable level during the five-year period 2013-2017. KB prioritizes the acquisition of foreign research literature that helps to place Sweden in a European and global context, enabling comparative studies and/or to serve as a support for research and interpretation of KB's existing collections.

In the first place, qualitative editions of basic and lasting value, reference literature were acquired in the broadest sense of the word; bibliographies, encyclopaedias, lexicon, influential writers and philosophers' collective writings, historical overviews and dissertations of various kinds.

During the year, KB has also chosen to buy more than 200 foreign monographs instead of remote lending that requested by users.

The licensed databases that KB holds are carefully tested against KB's acquisition profile. The purpose of this acquisition is to provide support for research in KB's collections.

Within the area of foreign journals, complete suites are sought of a selection of important journals in mainly humanities and, to a certain degree, social science.

Describing

Target image 2020

To the performance area **describing**, targets that involve “more people should use more” can be linked. This means - with a few exceptions - that our collections should be described, interconnected with each other and the outside world and, that KB, will describe its material according to independent principles and processes.

KB wants to highlight:

Older card catalogs have been digitized to allow users to search, on their own, for information about KB collections.

In order to increase the ability for users to find in KB's material, an inventory of the descriptions of the collections has been conducted.

KB has transitioned to the cataloging rules RDA, an international standard for metadata that can be shared and reused even outside the library world.

Movement to standards

2017 has been characterized by preparations and implementation of several system and standard changes that are necessary for the KB catalog descriptions to be better linked with the outside world.

Prior to a transition to a new system for cataloging personal archives and collections, KB has worked with migration, translation and establishment of manuals. The open source system is based on the use of international standards for describing archives and facilitates data sharing. The transition takes place in 2018.

Preserving

Target image 2020

To the performance area **preserve**, targets that involve greater access to digitized material can be linked. It is primarily about the library's long-term solution for digital preservation.

KB wants to highlight:

KB is one of the largest players in Sweden regarding data storage. By 2017, KB's storage capacity for digital material has been further expanded.

The system for monitoring the climate of the physical collections has been expanded and now includes more collections.

Long term preserving

The need for a long-term strategy for the development of magazines where physical collections are preserved have been identified and work has now begun to formulate the framework for such a strategy.

As part of the plan, a new direction decision has been taken for KB's continued need for the magazine in our localities at Bålsta. The decision allows for the necessary development and adaptation of the property to an appropriate local area that meets the current standard.

KB's preservation work aims to keep the collections available as far as possible and thus also promote accessibility by improving searchability. The bibliographic work and the active preservation measures are therefore well-coordinated in so-called planning projects with certain recurring elements (depending on needs) such as inventory, labeling, cleaning, signage and conservation measures.

The aim is to increase the availability to the material, but also to create order and streamline internal work processes. A special effort was made during the year in the *archives of individuals* in the handwriting collection.

The need to make available certain material categories in digital format when the physical carriers are fragile and/or worn by diligent use is large. During the year, a preliminary study was finalized, identifying the needs of technical infrastructure and processes for digitizing and digitally providing printed journals. A project with the task of creating this infrastructure was initiated.

Data storage

During the year, KB has made a number of improvements in IT infrastructure. KB has also continued to migrate the physical machines to the virtual environment and thus streamline the use of computer power. Virtual

environments have higher operational reliability and facilitate testing of new systems.

By 2017, both KB's storage structure and existing storage solution have been expanded. Migration of data from older storage solutions to new ones has been completed. Some preparatory work was done during the year for a more comprehensive analysis of long-term digital preservation.

Digitization of audiovisual material may involve efforts for both preserving and provision.

Providing

Target image 2020

To the performance area **providing** access, targets that involve *more use of more and greater access* to digitized material can be linked. It is about KB to make available open data as widely as possible, to work for openly available research information and that our services should meet the needs of users.

Furthermore, the most demanded and protective material must be digitized. Our own capacity for digitization should also have increased by 2020 and access to digital material should be available even outside the main building in Stockholm.

KB wants to highlight:

All universities have been given the opportunity to access KB's search service "Svenska dagstidningar" via a contract license.

Digitization of printed works as an alternative to traditional reading-room loans has been introduced.

An additional 86.000 hours of audiovisual material has been made available through digitization.

The use of KB collections and digital services

Our collections are available in many different ways. Therefore, it is difficult to provide a totally complete picture of the total use. KB is available at several addresses and in thirty web services. Different groups have different ways to use our collections and services, and those visiting KB's premises in Humlegården are probably not the most common user.

Physical visits and loans

By 2017, KB has welcomed approximately 137.700 physical visitors. This is an increase of 9.500 visitors compared with the year 2016. A contributing factor to the increase can be a range of estimated events, and KB's premises attract more people to study on-site.

The number of newcomer users has remained at about the same level in recent years, with approximately 5.500 newly registered library card holders annually.

Audiovisual material

For the audiovisual material, which is available through the Swedish Media Database (SMDB), the number of newcomer users has stabilized after a few years' decline. During the year, approximately 750 new user accounts were registered in SMDB.

Use of audiovisual material

The audiovisual material in SMDB is available to researchers in the KB premises. Playback of audiovisual files has more than doubled since the previous year after having previously fallen sharply. The use fluctuates a lot over the years. A few active researchers downloading a few thousand files during the year get a big impact on the statistics.

Printed material

The number of loans from the printed collections has decreased by almost three percent compared with 2016. A contributing factor is the various digitization efforts. This is in line with KB's goal of giving users greater access to digitized material.

The Swedish Newspaper Service

The digital service *Swedish newspapers* makes it possible to search freely in the digitized newspapers. In 2017, 1.300.441 searches were made in the material. There is a sharp increase in the number of searches compared with the year before when 803.000 searches were made. By 2017, 105.031 visitors were noted for the service.

Previously, the copyrighted material in the service was available only in KB's premises in the main building in Humlegården. During the year, KB entered into a two-year agreement with Bonus Copyright Access, a collective agreement license. The contract license allows remote access to four previous legal deposit libraries; the university libraries in Gothenburg, Lund, Umeå and Uppsala. It also enables other university libraries to join.

Interlibrary loans

Interlibrary loans continued to decline even in 2017. This applies mainly to the number of loans from KB's collections of printed materials to other libraries. Part of the reduction of long-distance loans from other libraries to KB is explained by the fact that KB increasingly chooses to replace long-term loans with acquisitions. It is to be considered as a service boost for users.

The use of acquired (licensed) e-resources

KB provides a smaller amount of licensed databases to complement the stock of social sciences and humanities. A decline in use was noted during the year. This was mainly due to the fact that KB chose to sign contract with fewer suppliers than previous years, due to low usage.

Use of the website www.kb.se

The number of visits to the KB website ([kb.se](http://www.kb.se)) was slightly more than 773.000 during the year. This is a decrease compared with previous years. In order to facilitate interest in finding KB's various services, extensive work has been done to renew the KB website. The new website will be launched in 2018.

Access by digitization

KB aims to provide greater access to digitized material and several digitization efforts have been implemented during the year. In order to maximize the benefits of digitizing non-copyrighted material, most of the information is available free of charge. KB also encourages other actors to use the material to build applications and search services. The material is available on <https://data.kb.se> and via <http://libris.kb.se/>.

KB has prepared the implementation of the EU's new data protection regulation (GDPR), which will come into force in 2018. During the year, GDPR will have a significant impact on how KB's digital collections can be accessed in the future. KB has had an expert role in the framework of the research data investigation, thus representing the Government's needs in this area.

Newspapers

The digitization of legal deposit newspapers has run throughout the year without any major problems and the pages have been uploaded in the interface between two and four months after the receipt. The number of digitized newspaper pages, historical and legal deposit copies, totaled 18.649.100 at year-end. The KB's collection of digitized newspapers is therefore one of the largest in Europe.

Audiovisual material

During the year, KB digitized 85.998 hours to preserve, but also to facilitate the access to audiovisual material. Compared to the previous year, the number of digitized hours is significantly lower. This is because KB completed a project digitizing Swedish local radio (SR) material from 2004-2013. It previously generated the big increase in digitized hours because the digitization could be done with robot solution. The migration process on Swedish Television material made from DVCPRO (digital video format) has continued during the year, which facilitates the availability of materials for users.

The pace of digitization of the non-uniform material is still affected by the fact that some objects require manual handling. Some of the problems that must be solved when digitizing are due to errors in recording the license copy of the supplier.

During the year several major collections were digitized, such as film collections from the Swedish Institute and the municipality of Söderhamn. Two new movie scanners have been purchased and put into operation. This has increased digitalization capacity and quality.

Card catalogs

During the year a number of card catalogs, a total of more than 250.000 catalog cards, were digitized and made available online. It has increased the visibility of, and facilitated access to, several of KB's previously more difficult accessible collections. The card catalogs describe inter alia manuscripts, shilling presses and older radio programs.

Demand-driven access

Some of KB's digitization is made on user demand. During the year, KB has initiated a flow of digitalization as an alternative delivery method for certain non-copyright Swedish material. This means that when the material is ordered by a borrower, KB chooses to digitize quickly. Within a few hours, the material will then be delivered digitally instead of as a traditional loan. This means that the borrower is not bound to read it on-site at KB.

The digitized works are also published online and are free for anyone to use in accordance with the *Creative Commons Public Domain Mark*. In addition to the simplified access to the material, digitization brings savings for KB through reduced wear and easier handling.

In order to facilitate for users, KB also provides the eBooks on Demand (EOD) service. Users can order and pay for digitalization of physical media. After the paying user has obtained the digitized material, it is also available to all other users. In 2017, 555 EOD were ordered and KB digitized with the same technology 544 older requested brochures to facilitate their accessibility.

KB is now increasingly responding to user issues using reference images taken with mobile camera as a first step. The researchers thus do not have to order materials that they do not actually need.

During the year, KB also conducted an inventory of priority collections for digitization.

Other examples of digitization

Examples of collections digitized during the year are 42 ancient Swedish manuscripts and approximately 3.800 visit card portraits published in Libris. Other collections digitized during the year are 157 ephemeral prints and 367 posters. Another example is the digitization of the Historical Journal (Historisk Tidskrift) that began during the year. Soon all the numbers released so far are freely available in digital form, so all users can access a source that was previously difficult to access.

The digitization of all cinema theater pamphlets (-2012) in KB's collections was completed during the year.

KB also participates in a number of collaborations with different partners in digitization.

Efforts to increase accessibility

In its research bill, the Government raised the research potential in digitizing collections at libraries and other cultural heritage institutions. It was also emphasized that increased access to large amounts of data offers the opportunity to develop new methods of analysis, so-called digital humanities. In order to move forward in the practical application, KB launched during the year, with funding from the Riksbankens jubileumfond (RJ), a preliminary study that will highlight the prerequisites for setting up a digital humanities laboratory (data lab) in KB.

During the year, a special effort was launched in the five national minority languages. As a result, a workshop on Sámi representation in film and television was funded by RJ and with participants from, among others, the Sámi library, Ájtte and Stockholm University.

National overview and cooperation

Target image 2020

To the performance area **national overview and cooperation**, targets describing libraries as an important community resource can be linked.

It is about KB being a visible social actor, **that** KB as a library authority systematically has reviewed statistics and analyzes, **that** the number of libraries joining Libris should increase and, **that** Sweden has a national library strategy that will give library constituents and leaders good prerequisites for meeting the requirements of library law.

KB wants to highlight:

In order to achieve the Government's goal of an openly available publishing system, five investigations are ongoing.

By KB's support, the proportion of municipalities with an assumed library plan of three years has increased from 35 to 86 percent.

A further 17 libraries have joined the Libris' cooperation, which now comprises a total of about 500 libraries.

An environmental analysis has been developed as a basis for the forthcoming National Library Strategy.

National Overview – Promoting collaboration

The cooperation platform for *Forum for national library cooperation and development* was launched in 2016. Within the platform, which supports KB's mission of having a national overview and promoting collaboration and development in the library area, work is ongoing in eleven groups. The work covers everything from library statistics to open access.

The forum groups include representatives from the Authority for Available Media (MTM), the Swedish National Agency for Education (Skolverket), the Swedish Culture Council (SKL), the Swedish University and Higher Education Association (SUHF), the educational institutions in Library and Information Science (Biblioteks- och Informationsvetenskap) and the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet).

Official library statistics

Within the framework of KB's mission to collect Sweden's official library statistics, for the third consecutive year, a comprehensive national statistics was published on publicly funded libraries in Sweden. In total, 2.239 libraries were requested on individual street addresses for their business in 2016.

In order to develop the quality of the statistical selection framework, a request was made to the municipalities of Sweden if additional school libraries had been added that had at least half-time staffing during the year. These were added to the selection framework.

In order to strengthen the possibilities of combining the official library statistics with individual-based surveys, a collaboration with the SOM institute, Swedish library association and Borås University began to access library-related SOM results.

National Library Strategy

In 2015, KB was commissioned by the Government to develop a proposal for a national library strategy for the entire country. The assignment will be finalized in March 2019.

Key facts and figures

(Size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc (2016 figures in brackets))

Number of staff: **301** (FTE) (298)

Women: **55 %** (53 %)

Men: **45 %** (47 %)

Average age: **49** (49)

Total operating budget: **394** million SEK (382 million SEK)

Number of visitors (fysical): **137 736** (128 189)

Number of loans printed materials: **89 868** (92 562)

Number of house loans manuscripts: **3 615** (4 430)

Number of hours streamed files: **37 307** (16 221)

Downloaded/viewed full text document in databases: **39 820** (37 425)
Data storage, the accumulated amount of data: **22 pb** (16 pb)

KB's collections amount to about **175** shelf kilometres (173 shelf kilometres, and approximately **15.7** (13) million hours of audio and video.

Documents (listed in shelf meters,)

- ✓ **76 308** (75 633) shm books (i.e. books, brochures and magazines)
- ✓ **33 244** (32 944) shm newspapers
- ✓ **21 861** (21 582) shm audiovisual materials
- ✓ **13 610** (13 437) shm ephemera
- ✓ **7 562** (7 562) shm microfilm and microfiche
- ✓ **6 263** (6 213) shm posters
- ✓ **5 352** (5 215) shm manuscripts
- ✓ **10 304** (10 289) shm maps and pictures
- ✓ **195** (194) shm music press

Audiovisual material (counted in hours)

- ✓ Over **10** million hours (10 million hours) video and sound cassettes, CD's and DVD's (2/3 are sound)
- ✓ **8.9** million hours (6 million hours) digital audiovisual materials (files)

The National Library has over 10 million hours of analogue audiovisual material. Of these, 3.2 million hours are digitized. We also have 5.7 million hours of legal deposit digital files. This means a total of 8.9 million hours of digital audiovisual material (files) for our users. In our collection we also have about 7 million packages from the legal deposit act for electronic materials/documents.

Cooperation with international institutions

Bibliotheca Baltica

Bibliotheca Baltica works for libraries in the Baltic Sea area

CDNL

CENL

CERL

COAR (Confederation of Open Access Repositories)

COUNTER (Project Counter; Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources),

DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)

EBLIDA (The European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations)

EDUG (European Dewey User Group)

EROMM (European Register Of Microform and digital Masters)

EURIG (European RDA Interest Group)
FIAT/IFTA (Cooperation of National Audiovisual Archives)
IADA (International Association of Book and Paper Conservators)
IASA (International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives)
ICOLC (Association of Library consortia worldwide)
IFLA (KB is involved in groups around metadata, conservation, magazines, audiovisual and others.)
IIPC (International Internet Preservation Consortium)
International ISBN Agency (International Standard Book Number)
ISMN (International Standard Music Number for Notated Music)
ISSN (International Standard Serial Number)
LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche)
NAPLE (National Authorities on Public Libraries in Europe)
NNG (Nordic Networking Group around bibliographic and infrastructure questions)
NORDLIC (Cooperation between the Nordic library consortia working with the License Agreement on electronic information resources.)
SCOAP3 (Sponsoring Consortia for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics) KB operates as a Swedish national node.
SHERPA/RoMEO (A Service that collects and analyses open access policies worldwide)
SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition)
TEL (The European Library)
WDL (World Digital Library)