

ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2020

Country: **Croatia**

Library: **National and University Library in Zagreb**

Chief Executive: **Prof. Ivanka Stričević, PhD¹**

Mailing address: **glavna_ravnateljica@nsk.hr**

Telephone: **00385 1 616 4023**

Fax: **00385 1 616 4185**

Web: <http://www.nsk.hr>

E-mail: **nsk@nsk.hr**

Full version of the report (in Croatian) is available at: <http://www.nsk.hr/izvjesca-o-radu/>

Mission

The National and University Library in Zagreb has a dual mandate – it is the national library of Croatia as well as the main library of the University of Zagreb. The Library is responsible for collection, cataloguing, processing, archiving, protection, long-term preservation and making available to the public its entire collection and especially the national collection *Croatica* that is acquired through legal deposit. The Library performs scientific, research and development activities with the aim to support and develop the library system of the Republic of Croatia.

Legal status and management

Founded and financially supported by the Government of the Republic of Croatia the Library reports to the Ministry of Science and Education and the Ministry of Culture and Media. The current Law on Libraries has been in force since February 2019.

The chief executive is the director general and the Governing board consists of nine members, representing the Ministry of Science and Education, Ministry of Culture and Media, and the Library.

Major achievements and general overview of activities

All current library activities were performed in accordance with the Library strategy for the period 2016-2020 and the plan for 2020.

However, the whole year was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, and in our case also two strong earthquakes: a magnitude 5.5 earthquake in Zagreb on 22nd March 2020, and a magnitude 6.2 earthquake some 50 km southeast of Zagreb on 29th December.

¹ Prof. Stričević took office on 1st February 2020.

The priorities shifted overnight and a quick response was needed, not only to manage regular activities in crises, but to provide help and guidance to other Croatian libraries as well. The Library produced detailed instructions for its users and staff as well as for other Croatian libraries on conduct during lockdown, gradual reopening and work under pandemic conditions. The Library assisted the libraries affected by the earthquake in salvage actions and provided storage for their most valuable material. For its contribution to the Croatian library community the Library was awarded the *Library of the Year 2020* award.

Even if the Library was fully closed only for a brief period in Spring and started working under limited conditions as soon as it was possible, it still intensified its online services, creating new and additional innovative ones.

Out of the 85,482 new items in 2020, the majority were acquired by legal deposit (81,043). As part of the regular cataloguing activities 36,136 bibliographic records and 20,407 authority records were produced. Preventive and curative protection measures were performed regularly.

A number of services are available to users, with a special emphasis on digital services, including the Croatian Web Archive, repositories, new thematic portals, digital laboratory and SMART library applications. Digital collections are available at <https://digitalna.nsk.hr/pb/>. The portal contained 229.107 items at the end of 2020.

The Library, with its partners, maintains the following digital repositories: Croatian Digital Theses Repository <https://zir.nsk.hr/>, Croatian Digital Dissertations Repository <https://dr.nsk.hr/>, University of Zagreb Repository <https://repozitorij.unizg.hr/>.

The integrated library system is based on Aleph. It integrates 43 libraries of the University of Zagreb and is coordinated by the National and University Library in Zagreb.

National Union Catalogue provides discovery services for resources available in the catalogues of 50 academic and special libraries in Croatia, including the catalogue of the National and University Library in Zagreb.

The Library leads the five-year project *Increasing the Access to Electronic Resources of Scientific and Academic Information – E-Resources* launched in November 2016. The project supports the Croatian scientific and academic community and is financed by the European Social Fund.

TRACE, Traditional children's stories for a common future is an international project funded by Erasmus+ involving four European countries and coordinated by the Library.

The Library (together with Croatian State Archives, Museum of Arts and Crafts and Croatian Radiotelevision) participates in the national project *e-kultura – Digitalizacija kulturne baštine* (E-Culture – Digitisation of Cultural Heritage) led by the Ministry of Culture and Media.

After the implementation of the new library law the Library staff participated in the preparation of many national strategic documents and regulations for the entire library community to harmonize with the new law. The Library coordinates the collection of statistical data for all Croatian libraries and maintains national cataloguing rules. The Library took over the Registry of Croatian Libraries from the Ministry of Culture and Media.

The programme of continuous education for Croatian librarians was organised in ten modules, 83 courses (mostly online) and 12 webinars.

According to the decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia the National and University Library in Zagreb was one of the main sites of Croatia's presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first half of 2020. This part of the Library continued to be used by the Government, but is also used for meetings and other events by the Library and other partner institutions.

Cooperation with national and international institutions

The cooperation with national and international institutions continues. The Library and its staff participate in a number of European and international organisations, networks and projects including IFLA, CENL, CDNL, LIBER and so on.

The Library regularly contributes data to international identifier networks (ISBN, ISMN, ISSN, DOI), but also to VIAF and DART-Europe.

Conferences, cultural events, exhibitions, publications

The activities presenting the Library holdings and achievements and promotion of Croatian cultural heritage include organisation of various events and exhibitions, book promotions, celebrations and other events. Due to COVID-19 pandemic some events were postponed, some cancelled. However, the fact that the majority of events were held online and the participation was free enabled a greater number of Library staff to participate and also give presentations.

The planned programme of promoting the Croatian heritage in European countries during the presidency was disturbed by the pandemic. Only the exhibition *Marko Marulić – A European Humanist* opened in Vilnius in January and it later toured in other towns in Lithuania.

The Library publishes national bibliographies (44 issues available online at <http://bibliografija.nsk.hr>), a journal *The Voice of NSK* (<https://www.nsk.hr/glas-nsk/>) and other print and electronic publications: catalogues, manuals, instructions, guides and so on.

Key facts and figures for 2020

Acquisitions:

85,482 items

Users:

5,738 registered members. This is 40% less than in the previous year and was caused by lockdown and limited availability of user places due to the pandemic. However, the visits to digital content by a variety of users increased considerably (ranging from 25% to 70% depending on individual portal or service).

Staff:

297 people

Budget:

9.8 million EUR

(This pertains to regular library activities. It should be noted that the full budget of 16.8 million EUR includes additional 3.3 million EUR for construction works in the part of the Library that hosted the Council of the European Union EU presidency, and further 3.7 million EUR allocated through the ESF for the project *E-resources*.)