

ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2022

Name of country: ROMANIA

Name of library or equivalent national-level organization: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ROMANIA

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Full version of the report (in Romanian) is available at: [https://www.bibnat.ro/dyn-doc/transparenta/2022 Raport%20anual actualizat.pdf](https://www.bibnat.ro/dyn-doc/transparenta/2022_Raport%20anual_actualizat.pdf)

Vision

Fundamental institution for the national written cultural heritage, the National Library of Romania conserves, manages, and promotes an important part of this heritage and participates in the construction of a modern, dynamic, and well-informed society, integrating at the national level its documentation and information resources, creating a path to knowledge, in general, and to the knowledge of Romanian culture and spirituality, in particular.

1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library

The priorities assumed by the National Library of Romania for 2022 have been followed throughout the year with encouraging results, despite the difficult context imposed by the pandemic and the geopolitical situation, with major impact on the current activities of our institution:

- Developing the document collections of the National Library of Romania;

- Promoting the documentary heritage of the National Library of Romania through projects, activities and events carried out both on its own behalf and in collaboration with other cultural/educational institutions;
- Promotion of documents from the Special Collections category through research reports, studies, and communications presented at conferences in the country and abroad, or through participation in national and international projects.

After the COVID 19 pandemic who forced us to change our entire view about life and completely modify our habits, another dare has come to affect our way of living. The Russian attack on the territory of Ukraine and the proximity of the war to the border of Romanian State imposed us to be in the front line of helping the Ukrainian people who were running from the war. Therefore, we joined the general efforts by doing our best to make life easier for the refugees and to make them feel welcome in our country.

The support offered by the National Library of Romania consisted of providing Ukrainian refugees with numerous educational resources and library services free of charge. Also, National Library of Romania welcomed Ukrainian children and teenagers to events organized in partnership with the Romanian Angel Appeal NGO. Sixty events were organized under this programme, where Ukrainian youth attended English and Romanian classes and a Youth Hub specifically created for them with activities of all sorts. Later in 2022, American Corner Bucharest, a partnership between the National Library of Romania and US Embassy, organized English classes for Ukrainian children, during November and December, 39 children graduated from this course. Last but not least, in collaboration with other cultural institutions, the National Library of Romania organized a charity donation campaign for collecting humanitarian aid in order to help the Ukrainian refugees.

As far as the library's current activity is concerned, after a long period of turmoil, the COVID 19 pandemic has finally ended, and, slowly but surely, all activities dedicated to the public and users have been resumed.

Developments in managing collections

In 2022, NLR continued the gap recovery on the flow of bibliographic processing for documents arrived under the legal deposit scheme, maintaining this pace we expect that in the first months of 2023 we will finally be up to date.

Also, the number of titles purchased compared to the previous year increased, by allocating a larger budget. Books and audio material were purchased for the current collections,

mainly documents in the “Romanica” category, but also other relevant works in the fields of political science, economics, in English, French. The titles selected for acquisition covered subjects related to economics, political science, European Union (politics, crises, migration), culture and civilisation, history, psychology, minorities, art, etc.

Regarding the collections held by the NLR and which, for various reasons, are still inaccessible to the public, an important step has been made by the establishment of the Sound Archive Collection and the commence of the project of digitization of the ebonite records. Also, in partnership with the Free Miorita Association, a pilot project has been started to sanitize the collection of documents taken over time from other institutions, in order to integrate them into the Library's collections.

The number of donors increased compared to the previous year, with 160 such actions recorded during the reporting period.

There has also been an increase in the quality of services offered to publishers. We manage to reduce the response time to CIP requests at 6 working days for most of the year (from 10 working days) and to increase the participation of publishers in the National CIP Programme by 11%. Also, we registered an enhancement of ISMN activity by increasing the number of ISMN codes awarded.

Cultural and professional events

The cultural and professional agenda was not neglected; it was achieved by the promotion of the special collections of the Library on the site and through social networks, as well as by organizing different activities like guided tours for students or other librarians, but also cultural, professional, educational or artistic events.

The agenda of cultural and professional events included:

- Cultural and professional events organised exclusively by the Library (central headquarter and Batthyaneum Library): 19
- Cultural and professional events organised in collaboration with other institutions: 69
- Workshops and other events for children and youth: 116
- Virtual exhibitions: 4

NLR employees have also been involved in various research projects, resulting in 20 articles published in NLR journals or in other publications and numerous participations in national and international conferences.

Library cooperation

At the international level, NLR continued the collaboration with its traditional international partners, associations and agencies working in the field of libraries: CENL, LIBER, ISBN, ISSM, ISMN, ISIL. The Director General of the NLR or other representatives of the library attended the annual general meetings organised in the traditional format by CENL (in Ankara, Turkey), LIBER (in Odense, Denmark), ISSN (in Cairo, Egypt) or online by ISBN and ISMN agencies.

A representative of the NLR was part of the international team that tested the implementation of ISSN+, the new IT system of the ISSN network and another colleague collaborated with representatives of other European national libraries in the CENL copyright working group.

Furthermore, in 2022, National Library of Romania was involved in several cooperation projects at both national and international level. One of them, *TECH.LIBRARY Project - Improving public library services for visually impaired users through ICT tools and training*, was successfully completed. The overall objective of the project consisted in fostering the exchange of good practices between staff in different libraries on ICT services and tools, for the involvement of visually impaired users, the extension of the digital skills of library staff through tailored training activities on ICT tools and the creation of a library network for cooperation to meet the needs of visually impaired users. Partners: Unione della Romagna Faentina - Italy, Mestna Knjiznica Ljubljana - Slovenia, Regionalna Narodna Biblioteka Petko P Slaveykov - Bulgaria, Gradska Knjiznica Rijeka - Croatia, Mazsalaca Municipality - Latvia and ARGO di Donda Andrea e C. snc – Italy.

2. Key facts and figures

Funding

In 2022, the National Library of Romania spent a budget of 26.284.977 RON (approx. EUR 5.312.887 EUR)

Staff

Staff at the end of 2022 – 192

Staff fluctuation in 2022: hired staff – 2; staff departures – 12

Documents included in our collections in 2022 (by legal deposit, purchase, donation and international exchange)

Books and other non-periodical publications: 73.009 bibliographical units

Serial publications/serials: 37.130 bibliographical units

Assigned codes

ISBN – 34.550

ISSN – 734

ISMN – 419

CIP – 26.516

ISIL – 105

Users in 2022

New users registered: 6.606

Active users: 20.534

Total users registered: 113.800

The library's website is constantly being updated with useful information, easy to access by our users.

	No. of visitors
Website	184.000
Online catalogue	29.000
Digital Library	27.000

	Posts	Likes
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	347	441.549