

National Library of Latvia

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The total **collection (01.01.2006)** of the NLL in comparison with 2005 has increased to 54 963 items.

In 2005 the **sum** allocated from the state budget for the Library was 2 071 673 Euro. On average inflation grew to 7,5% compared with 6,2% in 2004, thus resulting in a considerable growth of expenses for heating, electricity, water and communication.

The sum envisaged for enriching the Library's collection constituted 421 272 Euro.

In the year of report electronic publications were included into the project **Law on the Legal Deposit Copy of Latvia**.

All efforts were directed to support the realization of the **new NLL project**, the completion of which is expected in 2008.

Participation in the project **TEL-ME-MOR** essentially influenced the access to working systems at the Library and put forward the latest requirements for the new generation protocols and interfaces to ensure further co-operation within the framework of TEL and other international projects.

In the year of report the Library has replaced 114 of the old working stations for employees and readers, but 30 working stations were made anew.

The NLL continued to use ALEPH-500. The NLL has purchased scanners for scanning catalog cards and ordered software for downloading the data into ALEPH 500.

The NLL has started to form its **Digital Library**, simultaneously increasing the volume of the digitizing process.

The increase of the digitizing process has been rapid from 1000 to 38000 copies of newspapers. This part of the Digital Library has become extremely important, because a number of old publications are available only there (old copies can't be borrowed due to their uniqueness or wear and tear).

In the period of report 19 user disks and 251 archive disks have been made.

The NLL continued participation at **international organizations**: IFLA, CENL, CDNL, BIBLIOTHECA BALTICA etc.

The NLL has **co-operated** with the national libraries of Estonia, Lithuania, Belarus, the Czech Republic and the National Szechenyi Library.

In 2005 the **staff members** have widened their knowledge at the courses organized by the NLL Training Centre. Lecturers from Sweden, Denmark, and the Czech Republic were invited to share experience in the branch.

The **main indicators** of the NLL as readership and visits have increased in 2005.

In 2005 the task to ensure the Library users with traditional **services** and the services provided by modern information technologies has continued.

In February 2006 the Electronic Resources Reading Room was opened, offering on-line databases, the digital resources of the NLL, more than 20 licensed research databases, information search via Internet.

The Information and Library Sciences Reading Room started to serve readers on Saturdays, too. It has proved to be a good project increasing the readers' flow considerably.

The Library continued the Document Delivery service using the Ariel system license. E-magazines available at all working stations of the Library attracted a lot of attention. The agreement concluded with LURSOFT (the database of Latvian newspapers) allowed offering e- versions of the central Latvian newspapers.

What refers to **acquisition** international exchange of documents has taken place with 66 partners in 21 states. The exchange of documents has ceased with Uppsala University Library and Leiden University in the Netherlands.

The most significant accessions at the Department of Rare Books and Documents are four private collections, including G. Birkerts (an architect of the new NLL) collection and two incunabula of the 15th century.

Definitely one of the main tasks of the Library is **preservation** of the collection.

Organization of the Paper Conservation Centre is underway. Financing has been searched on a local level and in the European funds. The centre will help to preserve the service life of acid paper in the archives and the library collection.

Owing to the financial support of the Culture Capital Foundation a new leaf casting machine has been equipped, as well as the necessary supplementary materials.

Exchange of exhibitions among foreign countries has continued. The exhibition *Tallinn in Documents and Images* was displayed at the National Library of Estonia, but the exhibition *Book Art in Latvia* at Mazvydas National Library of Lithuania and the National Szechenyi Library (Hungary).

The NLL has given its contribution to a successful outcome of the festival "Astonishing Latvia", which took place in France, autumn, 2005.

The NLL has participated in the project "European Wall" initiated by the government of the Netherlands.