ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL
YEAR 2017

Name of country: **Latvia**

Name of library or equivalent national-level organization: **National Library of Latvia (NLL)**

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1. General overview of recent major developments at the National Library of Latvia.

NLL as a leading partner started to implement the **project "Digitization of the Cultural Heritage Content (1st Stage)".** In four years (22.09.2017 - 21.09.2021) the NLL will implement a European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and nationally co-funded project in the field of Latvia's digital cultural heritage, together with project partners – the National Archives of Latvia, the State Inspection for Heritage Protection of Latvia, and the Cultural Information System Centre. The main objective of the project is to ensure the wide availability of Latvian cultural heritage to society in the digital environment, which serves as a basis for strengthening national identity, developing the cultural, scientific, knowledge society and creative industries, and ensuring the long-term preservation of national cultural heritage in digital form, creating opportunities for its repeated use in new products and services, as well as its integration into a unified European and global cultural digital space. In 2017 project implementation, activities have been launched, including procurement preparation and contracting for digitization of text and cinema documents, organization of digital staff, etc. work related to marketing.

NLL has acquired the **right to perform an assessment of professional competence** acquired outside the formal education system (examination). First such examination was conducted by 12 people who obtained the 3rd level of professional qualification in the profession "librarian" and received state recognized document – a certificate.

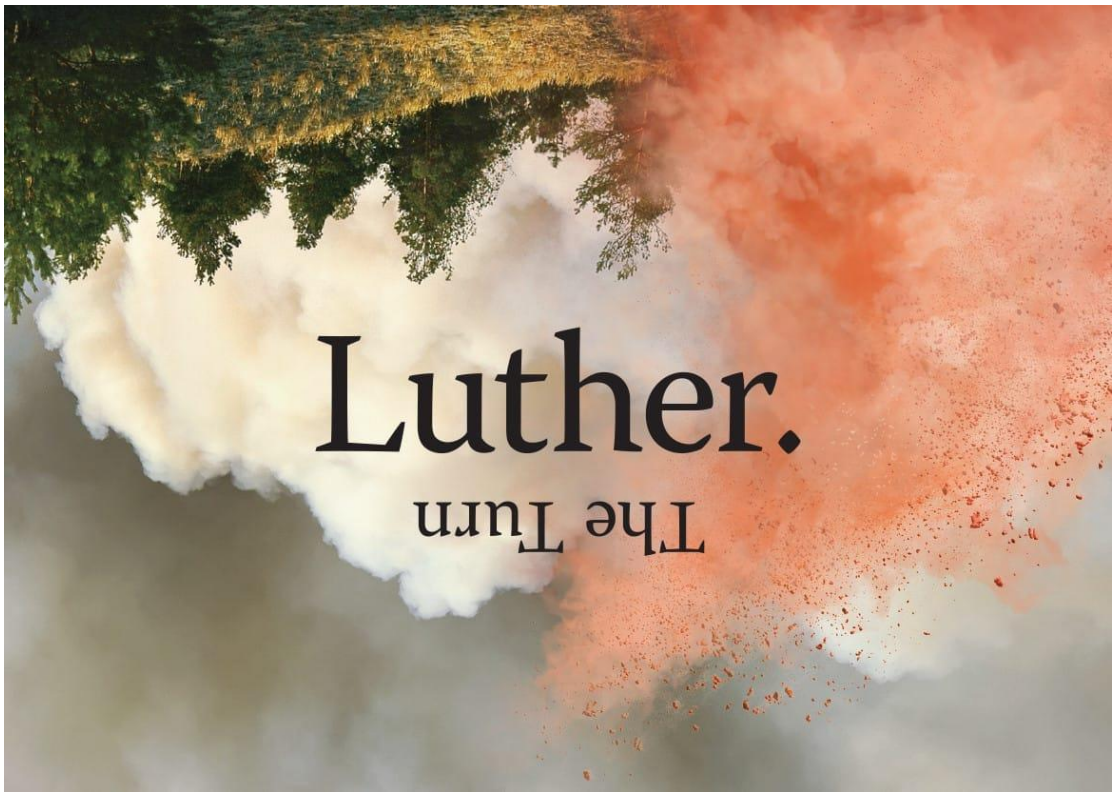
The process of establishing a **National Encyclopedia** entered a fundamentally important phase. First, throughout the year, the focus was on preparing the contents of the printed manuscript "Latvia". Almost all the articles for the manuscript have been received and edited. Secondly, the design and basic functionality principles of the electronic public environment were developed.

Nacionālā enciklopēdija

Logo of the National Encyclopedia

In 2017, the NLL **Educational Action Strategy for 2017-2021** has been developed and approved, which highlights key educational agendas: literacy, culture and science, and vocational training and development of specialists in the library and allied industries.

In 2017, the State and the National Library of Latvia began preparing for the events of the **centenary of Latvia**. Thus, celebrating 500 years since the beginning of the reformation, the exhibition **"Luther. The turn"** was unveiled on October 31. The quality of its artistic and content material, as well as the extent of communication, exceeded the scale of other projects, looking at the exhibitions in the LNB building for several years. About 12 thousand people visited it by the end of the year.



Exhibition poster "Luther. The Turn"

2. The National Library of Latvia relationship to government, citation of legislation, which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation, which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations.

The NLL is a state institution under supervision of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. The legal mandate for the operations of the NLL is provided by the law "On the National Library of Latvia", as well as the law on legal deposit and several regulations of Cabinet of Ministers on different aspects of library operations. The budget of the library consists of a subsidy provided by the Ministry of Culture according to the annual law on state budget, as well as of own income for paid services and other income, such as projects and donations.

The NLL represents Latvia in international library organizations, participates in development and implementation of sector specific international programs, and cooperates with foreign libraries in accordance with inter-governmental and direct agreements.

3. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc.)

Key facts given by 01.01.2018.

Number of registered users: 132 698
Number of on-site visits: 517 528
Number of virtual visits: 1 399 139
Number of loans: 345 686
Collection (total number of units): 4 203 658
- Books: 1 981 492
- Serials: 845 591
- Audiovisual materials: 74 182
- Microforms: 107 227
- Cartographic materials: 38 985
- Sheet music: 222 338
- Graphic documents: 239 183
- Manuscripts: 29 093
- Small prints: 630 595
- Other: 4 596

E – Resources collection (total number of units): 12 469
- e-books: 5 892
- e-serials: 5 820

Number of personnel: 364
- Including 200 librarians

Size of premises used by NLL: 48 595 m2
Number of places for readers: 1 000
Total budget year 2016: 11 713 748 EUR
- Including:
- Financing from state budget: 9 902 209 EUR
- Expenses – salaries: 4 644 261 EUR

Expenses – social insurance, allowances, compensations: 1 233 228 EUR

Expenses – building of collection: 390 470 EUR

Including:

Periodicals 29 583 EUR

Expenses – goods and services: 3 697 764 EUR

Including IT services: 956 374 EUR

4. New developments in creating and building collections

At the end of 2017 NLL stock has 4 203 658 units. NLL traditional stock was complemented with 56 281 units, while 33 726 units were excluded from the traditional stock. Periodicals are the most accounted unites in the traditional stock, while books are the most excluded.

During the last 3 years, NLL has received a **generous donation** from the The Boris and Inara Teterev Foundation for the collection of the Art Reading Room. NLL stock has gained more than 570 new art editions, a new collection has been created in the Audiovisual Arts Reading Room – 235 documentaries about art. Thanks to the project NLL can be proud of the most current, content-intensive collection of art publications in Latvia, possibly even throughout the Baltic, as well as a unique one in Latvia, only the NLL available art collection.

Poster for the exhibition of the newly acquihired art book collection

5. New developments in creating and building digital collections.

New version of academic repositiry **“Academia”** was launched ensuring the freedom of access to scientific publications. During the year, cooperation agreements with new content partners were negotiated and concluded. The system is improved and 206 publications or intellectual outputs have been placed in the repository.

New digital collection **“Brāļu draudzes (rok)raksti”** (Latvian handwritings of the Moravian Brethren), which is part of the National Digital Library of Latvia and is now accessible on the braludraudze.lndb.lv website.

Logo of the digital collection "Brāļu draudzes (rok)raksti" (Latvian handwritings of the Moravian Brethren

6. New developments in providing access to collections

NLL continued to work on the development of the **training service**, with particular emphasis on different audiences and the development of thematic lessons. During the reference year, 1516 participants, mostly pupils and students, including 20 doctoral students, have used the opportunity to learn how to use library information resources

NLL started to implement a project that promotes the development of digital competences for researchers, the use of digital tools and the deployment of digital services in libraries.

7. New developments in providing access to digital collections

Last year has been particularly successful in the field of electronic resources. Compared to 2016, the number of database visits has increased particularly rapidly by 145 561 (47 567 in 2016). The increase in the use of databases has been greatly driven by the introduction of the Primo search system at the end of 2016.

For better use of NLL resources, both in the librarian field and in the service of readers, a learning material was prepared "Electronic Information Resources of the National Library of Latvia: Search, Selection, Retrieve". Two manuals was also created based on this material: "Periodika.lv" and "Latvian periodica on Europeana Newspapers".

Since June 1, the new RDA (Resource Description and Access) data model is used to create data in the catalogues, providing more high-quality information search capabilities in the union catalog.

8. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national memory institutions (libraries, archives and museums)

As mentioned in ch.1 NLL is a leading partner in the European Regional Development Fund project "Digitization of the Cultural Heritage Content (1st Stage)" together with project partners – the National Archives of Latvia, the State Inspection for Heritage Protection of Latvia, and the Cultural Information System Centre.

Periodical materials prepared for the digitization.

The NLL serves as a competence centre for Latvian library professionals by developing guidelines and terminology and adopting standards for library sector, providing consultations and organizing seminars and courses for professional development. Two main topics of methodical work were developed during the year: NLL issued “Guidelines for the work with study of local history in Latvian Libraries” and two public discussions and a conference about the topic was held; consultative publication “Annual plan for consultative and methodological work” was developed.

Completed work on a new version of the “Library, Archives and Museums Term Database”, which provides convenient and modern access to the terms.

Significant work has been carried out on updating the problem of media literacy, organizing a cycle of training seminars for librarians “Introduction to Interpersonal Understanding”, a workshop “From Book Start to Media and Information in Libraries”, and a developed and published edition entitled “Travel in Media: Ideas for Learning with Children in Libraries”.

NLL Competence Development Centre continues to realize education program “Library science” (960h) and Professional development education program “The basis of Information and library science” (160h).

The NLL in accordance with the “Legal deposit law”, performs the distribution of units of the legal deposit copy to other Latvian libraries, maintains a free exchange stock, the purpose of which is to provide support for Latvian libraries and other cultural institutions in the formation of the stock, and performs the distribution of non-reimbursement expenses to Latvian libraries. The NLL also implements the children's and young people's reading promotion programmes “Children's, Youth and Parents” (see more on ch.1.) and “Book Start”.

The LNB constitutes the content of the Latvian Library Portal www.biblioteka.lv.