

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND

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THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF FINLAND – A COUNTRY REPORT

Basic information of the reporting library

The National Library of Finland is the oldest and largest research library in Finland, serving scholars and readers nationwide. The Library was founded in 1640. In addition to the national collection library has large special and humanistic collection and the largest archive collection of authors and composers manuscripts in Finland. Among library's internationally important collections are: The Slavonic Library, The Monrepos Manor Library and The A.E.Nordenskiöld Collection.

Library services also as a national bibliographic office and as a Finnish National Sound Archive. Finnish national bibliography is composed of two databases: Fennica (monographs, periodicals and maps) and Viola (sound recordings and sheet music).

The National Library of Finland provides infrastructure services to Finnish university libraries, polytechnic libraries, special libraries and public libraries as well to Finnish archives and museums. Lately the public sector as a whole has started to use several of the infrastructure services as well.

The National Library is responsible of the national licensing of content for all types of libraries, development and maintenance of several IT-infrastructure services for libraries, archivers, museums and other public sector organisations and has a high profile in international standard's development.

Reporting library's relationship to the government. Legislation which sets out the Library's mandate and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations

There are two main legal acts regulating the activities of the National Library. The one is Act on collecting and preserving cultural materials (Legal Depositi Act) and the other is Universities Act. Library is independent institute inside Helsinki University. Library is financed jointly both by Ministry of Education and Helsinki University.

Act on Information Management Governance in Public Administration steers the development of public services emphasizing open services meaning for examples open access, open metadata, open data and open source. Also the new government programme of Finland focuses on digitalization and openness. One of the strategic development areas of the National Library of Finland is to develop services based on these principles.

Key facts and figures

Total expenditure 25,7 million €

Personnel 257

Quantity of licensed resources

- E-magazines 57 155
- Reference databases 111
- Reference works 5380
- E-books 379 204

Legal Deposit archiving

- 388 meters of selfing (analogical material)
- Deposited e-publications 20 565
- Web-harvesting 143 million Files

Digitized material

- newspapers 3,2 Million pages
- journals 5,4 million pages
- ephemera 130 000 pages

Usage of electronic material

- Article downloads from Finnish Electronic Library 22,6 million
- Page downloads from Digital Archive (Doria) 1,3 million
- Searches in Digital Newspaper Library 10,7 million

Strategy work

The library started to plan its new strategy for 2017-2020 to guide the development of services and policies. The strategy will be published in 2015.

The library is also developing two service strategies namely the FinELib-strategy (national licensing) and Finna-strategy (search portal). Both services have been accepted to the new research infrastructure roadmap 2014-2020 published by the Academy of Finland.

New developments in creating and managing collections

In 2014, about million text pages were digitized and 1,2 million pages were made available for customer use. Most of the digitized material was newspapers and other periodicals, but also, maps, ephemera and monographs. The Digitalkoot tool created for the crowdsourcing of the digitized material lets you select press clippings from digitized resources.

The electronic reception process developed for newspapers in the Comellus project was completed in May. The process covers the materials' transmission from its reception (the publishing house) to its transfer for customer use. Transferred newspapers are also microfilmed for long-term preservation.

The archiving of the Finnish public administration's online publications and their metadata began in 2014. Deposits of e-monographs from the larger commercial operators also continued. The online archiving of Finnish materials continued and thematic collections related to the European Parliament elections and web-music were implemented. Totally 400 meters of selfing of analogical Finnish publications were deposited. Deposited e-publications reached to total amount of over 20 000 publications containing both e-books, e-music and e-periodicals. Web-harvesting during the year 2014 was totally 143 million files.

Co-operation with the research community

The Digitization Project of Kindred Languages financed by the Kone Foundation aims to provide the research community with access to previously unexamined materials printed in Uralic languages. Most of the materials belong to the National Library of Russia's collections. As a part of the project a so-called OCR editor has been created, a research tool that facilitates the editing of digitized and OCR'd text materials.

A book history project was launched under the auspices of the Liisa Santala Foundation. Besides the digitised resources, an

online publication of the book history research will be produced.

Classics of Finnish fiction are freely available at the address klassikkokirjasto.kansalliskirjasto.fi. Approximately 600 works can currently be accessed from the service, which will be expanded during the coming years.

Music Archives project made over 450 domestic music archives accessible online. Customers can access the materials' information through the Finna and Viola customer interfaces. The collections contain the archives of numerous Finnish composers – from Pacius and Sibelius to present-day composers. Besides music manuscripts, the collection also includes other archived composer-related materials such as diaries and correspondence.

The digitisation and cataloguing of the Turku Academy's doctoral dissertations continued with the support of the Ilkka and Ulla Paatero Fund. The first 1 778 dissertations, published during the period 1642–1828, have already been posted in the Doria repository. During the second stage of the project that began in the autumn of 2012, the remaining approximately 2 700 doctoral dissertations will be digitized. The materials will be posted for customer use in 2015.

The critical edition of Jean Sibelius Works project is publishing Sibelius's oeuvre in its entirety with research-based editing. By the end of 2014, a total of 24 volumes had been published. Besides the National Library, the project's publishers are the Sibelius Society and the German publishing house Breitkopf & Härtel.

A valuable collection of scores and parts used by the Hotelli Kämp's salon orchestras was donated to the National Library. The collection of sheet music is available for customers' use on the National Library's premises.

Materials from the National Library's collections were displayed in exhibitions mounted by domestic and foreign cultural institutions. Rare books dating from the 1500s and 1600s, selected from the National Library's historical collections, were on view at the National Library of Latvia's *Ex Bibliotheca Ducis Curlandiae* exhibition in June 2014.

The Finnish National Gallery's Tove Jansson anniversary exhibition borrowed no less than 59 works from the National Library's collections, including first printings of Moomintroll books, comic strip albums, and picture books. Similarly, materials loaned from the National Library – concert

programmes, posters, sheet music, letters, and record covers – were displayed at the Ateneum Museum’s Sibelius and the World of Art exhibition.

Finland’s first professor for Digital Humanities started his tenure. The Professor works both by Helsinki University’s Faculty of Arts and by National Library. The goal for professor is to promote humanistic research and usability of digital resources.

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

The Ministry of education and Culture coordinates the national Digital library initiative which comprises of two parts: the search interface Finna and digital preservation system.

The Finna service brings together the resources of Finnish archives, libraries and museums. Finna’s 1-year anniversary was celebrated in December. By the end of the year the service contained approximately 9 million references from 85 different organisations. Finna has been designed cooperatively with Finnish libraries, archives, and museums, and the National Library has overseen its development work. Finna’s technical implementation has utilised an open source software that facilitates wide-ranging domestic and international cooperation.

The library is the first organization in the country to start using the national digital preservation service for the preservation of legal deposit materials.

Finto, a national thesaurus and ontology service maintained by the National Library, has been funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture, as well as the Ministry of Finance. The Finto service is an important step towards linked data that for its part improves the usability and interoperability of data created in different services. The concentrated ontology service and its uniform publication practices are convenient for content describers and application developers.

Melinda is the National Metadata Repository and service provided to libraries. The aim of Melinda is to provide an effective common cataloguing platform to all Finnish libraries and to enhance the effectiveness of the bibliographic description work done in different libraries. Melinda project urge libraries to common practices and operational methods in order to improve the quality of metadata.

The adaptation of the RDA (Resource Description and Access) description standard for library resources will take place gradually beginning in 2015, but the changeover phase in the entire Finnish library sector will continue until the 2020s. The first stage of the transition involved the translation and editing of the international RDA norms to suit Finnish conditions, and a Finnish translation of the descriptive rules was completed in 2014. Establishing the rules in Finland will require close cooperation the library sector's experts. Enhancing the efficiency of metadata production to encourage cooperation among domestic memory organisations is another objective.

The Ministry of Education and Culture launched the Open Science and Research initiative (ATT) for the period 2014 – 2017. The project target is to make Finland the leading country in the openness of science and research. An additional objective is to promote the trustworthiness of science and research and support the culture of open science in the research community. The National Library actively participates in the project. The library is responsible of a significant sub-projects of the initiative focusing on open access publishing, digital preservation of research results and development of persistent identifiers. The library has also been given the responsibility to coordinate open science training for all research organisations in the country. Library has representatives in the strategic steering group and several working groups.

Library renovation continues

The renovation of the National Library's main building designed by Carl Ludwig Engel began in 2013. The renovation has focused on the updating of the building's technical systems, as well as improvements in accessibility and the functionality of the Library's facilities.

The repair work is characterised by the large number of conservators and the cooperation with the National Board of Antiquities and other experts. The Library's large reading rooms have been conserved and the installation of wood flooring is underway. Most of Finland's conservators, possessing the sector's most up-to-date expertise, are currently involved with the Library's renovation project. Excavation works for the new coatroom at the basement level are in the final stages, as are the installations of the building's mechanical and electrical systems.

The National Library's own internal planning group is formulating future service concept, new furnishing layouts, and a complete overhaul of its hardware. The renovation will be

completed in the late autumn of 2015 and the Library will be open to the public in early 2016.

The National Library's renovation was chosen as "Building Site of the Year 2014". The selection was made by a jury of experts invited by Rakennuslehti ("Building Magazine").