

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2015 (for the year 2014)

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General Overview – Organisation

The World War I Centennial, 1914 to 2014, was for the Austrian National Library as one of the country's central memory institutions, an occasion for extensive activities. The focus was on the exhibition *To my Peoples! The First World War 1914 – 1918*, held in the State Hall from 13 March to 2 November 2014, but the Austrian National Library was also involved in other activities: within the digital newspaper portal *Austrian Newspapers Online* (<http://anno.onb.ac.at>), newspapers and magazines from the period 1914 – 1918 were made available by means of fulltext search, the initiative comprising a total of over 1 million pages. In this way, a wealth of source material – extending as far as the lists of the dead and missing – has been made available online for historical research. The 2014 Centennial was also taken up in web archiving, and a selective event harvesting was carried out in order to preserve for the future the many webpages that were created for this occasion.

The most important construction project of the Austrian National Library over the last few years has been the creation of a Literature Museum in the rooms of the former Austro-Hungarian Exchequer at Johannesgasse 6, Vienna 1. This Museum, the fourth connected to the Library opened in April 2015 and adds a major aspect to the Austrian National Library, making it the leading remembrance and events venue for Austrian literature.

Currently the Library is working on the implementation of its strategy plan for 2012–2016, which comprises nine thematic areas: improvement of the catalogue, digitalisation initiatives, IT strategy, long-time archival storage plus access and applications, business models, scientific research, Web 2.0, full text search, and Austrian Books Online. Within the framework of an interim appraisal, all of the strategic goals and their implementation underwent critical assessment.

In 2014, a plan was prepared and adopted for a total review of all analogue library stocks to take until 2026. All the collections and the two main departments submitted concepts and are already working intensively on implementing them. In the early stages, a step-bystep review of all stocks on the basis of an audit is to be conducted in the stacks. The aim is to achieve a 100% correspondence between the stocks that have developed over the centuries, the statistical inventory figures and the inventory catalogues on the one hand with the inventories actually held on the other.

Library Services

Between January and December 2014, more than six million searches were conducted in *QuickSearch*, the Austrian National Library's central online catalogue. The fact that this figure increases year after year is mainly due to a step-by-step integration of all the special catalogues of our individual collections into the central search engine – one of the key tasks among our strategic goals for 2016. Most recently, the Catalogue of Manuscripts and Estates (HANNA) has been transferred to *QuickSearch*. The approximately 600,000 data sets include such unique objects as original manuscripts, musical autographs, and letters written by outstanding personalities in the fields of culture and politics.

In 2014, the web portal on the history of the women's movement (*Ariadne*) underwent a relaunch. Both the basic database and the website were adapted and furnished with new functions and improved features. Every two months, the *Ariadne* newsletter, which has appeared since 2001, offers a list of the Austrian National Library's new acquisitions in the field of feminist and gender research.

In time for the start of the summer term 2014, special trainings were launched for pupils doing research in the context of their "pre-scientific papers", which were introduced at higher secondary schools as a compulsory element in 2015.

Key Facts and Figures

In 2014 more than 268.000 people visited the museums of the Austrian National Library. This corresponds to an increase of 9.39 % compared to 2013. A major contribution to this impressive result was made by the extension of museum opening hours to all Mondays during the summer months.

In 2014, the digitised copies of the Austrian National Library's holdings were added to the total number of holdings for the first time, which accounts for its substantial increase.

Statistics

	2014	2013
holdings	11,073,718	9,808,728
total acquisitions	216,976	328,307
newspapers and magazines (constant subscriptions)	11,728	11,617
uses of reading rooms	226,814	224,052
total of documents used	460,315	469,766
Scholarly research and information services	9,764	9,426
exhibitions	3	5
visitors (museums, exhibitions)	268,049	245,033
hits of the website	96,793,986	73,151,565
online research in catalogues and databases	9,215,662	7,208,479
staff total (equivalent to full-time); reference date: 31 December	319,65	315,44

Funding

By 31 December 2014 the ANL reported a yearly deficit in the amount of € 593,043.52 (compared with a yearly deficit of € 128,254.36 in 2013), which is very fortunately substantially lower than budgeted. The yearly deficit is defrayed by the compulsory cover accumulated in previous years, so that the ANL is able to draw up a stable balance sheet for 2014. By the reporting date of 31 December 2014, book equity amounted to € 9,510,050.74 (2013: € 10,103,094.26).

Sales revenues and other operational earnings reached a total of € 3,880,613.88 (2013: € 3,971,674.94), while the basic compensation supplied by the Federal Government was € 23,059,000.00 (2013: € 23,028,000.00). In 2014 the ANL's total expenses amounted to € 27,731,890.56 (2013: € 27,248,179.57).

The most significant positions were:

- Personnel expenditure: € 17,982,290.11,
- Operating costs: € 3,954,437.65,
- Expenses for raising the value of the collections: € 1,094,213.74
- Depreciation: € 1,198,346.07.

In 2014 the financial results amounted to € 199,233.16 (2013: € 120,562.86). Investments in depreciable capital assets accounted for € 3,877,825.29 (2013: € 1,797,534.18) and in addition to necessary investments in ongoing maintenance comprised primarily the establishment of the

Literature Museum at the Grillparzerhaus, the adaptation of the manuscript depot, the renewal of the washroom facilities near the State Hall, and the refurbishment of a seminar room in the training area. Moreover, planning began for an electronic barrier system including access software.

Digital Library

Within the framework of the project Austrian Books Online (conducted jointly with Google), as many as 265,000 volumes of historical books have been digitised to date. They are accessible online via the Austrian National Library's Digital Reading Room free of charge. A special Book Viewer was developed for the Digital Library and has also been available for mobile devices since spring 2014.

By the end of 2014, as many as some 14.7 million pages had been made accessible online via the newspaper portal ANNO and the legal portal ALEX.

Since the relevant amendment to the Austrian Media Act came into effect on 1 March 2009, web content has been archived and made accessible at Web@rchiv Austria. So far, approximately 60 terabytes of data from 1.4 million Austrian domains has been collected, with contents comprising more than 2 billion individual digital files. In addition to extensive crawls carried out throughout the .at domain at two-year intervals, thematic collections, particularly those on media and politics, provide a more profound insight into current events in Austria. Event harvesting for the most important events complement the comprehensive collection of online content. Apart from the ongoing collection of media and political data, websites on the EU election, the Vorarlberg local government election, and the activities commemorating the 100th anniversary of World War I were archived in 2014.

EU projects

The ANL collaborated in 2014 in a total of eleven EU projects; again the main emphasis was on the pan-European portal Europeana.

2014 started projects are:

- Europeana Sounds (<http://pro.europeana.eu/project/europeana-sounds>)
- Europeana Food&Drink (<http://foodanddrinkeurope.eu/>)
- Europeana V3 (<http://pro.europeana.eu/web/europeana-v2.0>)

Ongoing projects:

- Europeana V2.0 (<http://pro.europeana.eu/web/europeana-v2.0>)
- DM2E (digitised manuscripts to Europeana, <http://dm2e.eu/>)
- Europeana Collections 1914–1918 (www.europeana-collections-1914-1918.eu)
- Europeana Creative (<http://pro.europeana.eu/web/europeana-creative>)
- Europeana Newspapers (www.europeana-newspapers.eu)
- APARSEN (alliance permanent access to the records of science in Europe network, www.aparsen.eu)
- SCAPE (scalable preservation environments, www.scape-project.eu)
- Europeana Awareness (<http://pro.europeana.eu/project/europeana-awareness>)

Exhibitions and Events

The “War Collection” of the former Court Library was the focus of the “*To my Peoples! The First World War 1914–1918*” exhibition. This large and manifold collection of sources on the First World War in Austria, the only one of its kind, is today part of the Picture Archives and Graphics Collection and was presented to the public for the first time. The curator of the exhibition was Univ.-Prof. Dr. Manfred Rauchensteiner, one of the most renowned Austrian contemporary historians and amongst the most reputed experts on the First World War, who was also responsible for the design of the exhibition’s extensive catalogue.

Accompanying the exhibition, an international conference featuring prominent speakers was devoted to the commemoration period 1914–2014. At the invitation of the Austrian National Library, international experts and Austrian scholars discussed World War I and its consequences. The main focal points were the Habsburg monarchy on the eve of World War I, the causes of the war, the role played by elites, the private soldier’s perspective, and the 2014 memorial.

In addition, the Austrian National Library presented selected works from more than 500 years of book culture at the State Hall. Entitled “*Angels. Heavenly Messengers in Old Manuscripts*”, the show told about the heavenly host, angelic princes, and guardian angels, but also about renegade and fallen angels.

The common roots of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, the three “religions of the book”, were explored in a temporary exhibition at the Austrian National Library’s Papyrus Museum under the title “*Abraham’s Children. The Bible in Judaism, Christianity and Islam*”.