

## Annual Report to CDNL 2005 – 2006

<b>Name of Country</b> : Latvia
<b>Name of Library</b> : National Library of Latvia
<b>Name of Chief Executive</b> : Mr Andris Vilkis

The total collection (01.01.2005) of the NLL in comparison with 2004 has increased to 13 683 items. In 2004 the Library's financial position was 3 100 789 USD in total, the sum allocated from the state budget was 2 509 109 USD. On average inflation grew to 6,2% in 2004, thus resulting in a considerable growth of expenses for heating, electricity, water and communication. It has been problematic to find means for repair works. Purchasing for enriching the Library's collection constituted 177 774 USD. In the year of report the law on Legal Deposit Copy of Latvia was in progress. The new law will be adopted by the Parliament in 2005.

Mrs. Helena Demakova, the Minister of Culture, stressed the realization of the National Library of Latvia project to be a priority in her work. Some premises of the NLL need renovation, but the funding is insufficient. Only small repairs could be realized. During the period of report several discs have enriched the Digital Library of the NLL.

The digitization of old newspapers continues. About 39 titles of newspapers; 43 631 pages have been digitised. In 2004 the project Heritage of the year 1905 has been started, embracing 18 titles; 7900 pages. In the field of automation the year 2004 was important for further integration of Library's business processes into its LIS (Library Information Systems). Automation covered cataloguing, acquisition, OPAC, document delivery and other Library's processes. The library has purchased a new accounting system UVIS. In the year of report the Library has received 114 new PC. The National Library continued conversion of National Bibliography into digital format. Ca. 61 500 records were converted, edited and uploaded into ALEPH LIS. The National Bibliography data has amounted to 1 300 000 records.

The NLL participates at international organizations: IFLA, LIBER, IBBY, JAML etc.

The new cooperation agreements have been concluded between the NLL and the National Library of Belarus, and the National/ Royal Library of Sweden.

The exchange of the staff with the National Library of Wales was made real. Regular staff exchange is organized between the NLL and the Czech National Library.

The main indicators of the NLL (readership, visits, loans) have decreased in 2004.

In 2004 the task to ensure the Library users with traditional services and the services provided by modern information technologies has continued. The Document Delivery service operates successfully.

Acquisition funds have not been sufficient. Minimal means are meant and spent for supplying with the recent literature. There is not enough means for retrospective acquisition, which is of high demand for the development of the collection in order to level the breach in continuity.

Preservation of the collection is realised with the possible and accessible means. Five restorers work at the department two of them being involved in the process of digitisation. The NLL is ready to join the Latvia Blue Shield programme.

Exchange of exhibitions among foreign countries has continued.

The travelling exhibition Art Nouveau in Latvia was mounted in Russia, Belarus.

The Czech National Library has arranged an exhibition The Culture of Charles IV in the Centre and Periphery, which is still travelling around Latvia. The publishing costs have grown; therefore the Library publications have decreased.

In 2004 the staff of the NLL has decreased from 419 to 346, librarians from 318 to 298.

The year 2004 has been rich in salient events.

On September 3, 2004 the NLL marked its 85th anniversary. In February 2004 the minister of Culture visited the Library and got acquainted with the NLL and its activities. Two posters from the collection of the Library represented Latvia at the International Poster Exhibition in the Hague.

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