

# CZECH REPUBLIC

## NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

VLASTIMIL JEZEK — DIRECTOR GENERAL

### ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

The report focuses on two high priority areas connected with preservation of and access to both analogue and digital documents.

#### NEW BUILDING

National Library of the Czech Republic (NL CR) will have no space for new acquisitions after 2010 and thus its new building became the priority no. 1. The form of an international, open and anonymous competition, additionally according to UIA (The International Union of Architects) regulations, was selected. On 16 May 2006, the international project architectural competition was announced. The announcement of the competition drew exceptional attention: a total of 735 architects and architectural teams from all over the world showed their interest in participating in the competition. The international panel consisting of excellent experts (the architects of world renown Zaha Hadid and Eva Jiřičná, the UNESCO urban-planning expert Irene Wiese-von Ofen, the architects José Grinberg, Petr Bílek and John Eisler, the environmental expert Tony Mc Laughlin; Jan Kněžínek represented the City of Prague in the panel while Vlastimil Ježek, in close cooperation with the alternate juror Bohdana Stoklasová, represented the National Library) selected between 24 and 26 October 2006 eight project proposals from the 355 which had entered the competition and had been delivered by the deadline to advance to the second, final round of the competition. At the end of February 2007, the same determined the final order.

The winner Future Systems ([http://www.nkp.cz/files/promo\\_vitez1.pdf](http://www.nkp.cz/files/promo_vitez1.pdf) [http://www.nkp.cz/files/promo\\_vitez2.pdf](http://www.nkp.cz/files/promo_vitez2.pdf)) was presented to the public at a press conference on 2 March 2007. The public was subsequently acquainted with all the competing designs at an exhibition in The Klementinum Gallery.

#### DIGITAL LIBRARY AND DIGITAL PRESERVATION

NL CR is a key player in this area in the country. Large national digitisation projects ("Memoria" aim to build a virtual research environment for the realm of historical book resources.

"Manuscriptorium" <http://www.ndk.cz/narodni-dk/manuscriptorium>, the database within

Memoria, represents the current state of our achievements. The "Kramerius" project

<http://www.ndk.cz/narodni-dk/kramerius> focuses on preservation of and accessibility to

endangered "modern" periodicals, books, and other documents. "WebArchiv"

<http://www.ndk.cz/narodni-dk/webarchiv> has two main objectives: first, to catalogue online publications as a part of the national output and to integrate their records into the Czech National Bibliography database; and second, to store these publications in a deposit system so as to ensure long-term access to them) have been functioning under its leadership and coordination for more than ten years, combined with other regional, subject-oriented, institutional, and other projects.

These projects build the core of the National Digital Library and they have produced millions of digitised pages needing long-term preservation. National policy is based on the "Concept of long-term preservation of and access to national document cultural heritage"

<http://www.ndk.cz/koncepce> prepared by the Czech Ministry of Culture.

This concept has to be approved (and funded) by the Czech Government in 2007. NL CR has many contacts in memory and research institutions dealing with long-term preservation in Europe and in other continents and it participated and participates in several European projects covering this area (TEL-ME-MOR, TEL, DPE, M-CAST, ENRICH etc.).

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