

Title: ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2009
Name of country: SERBIA
Name of library: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SERBIA
Name of Director: Mr. Sreten Ugricic
Name of Deputy Director: Mrs. Vesna Injac
Director's mailing address: sugricic@nb.rs
Deputy Director's mailing address: injac@nb.rs
Telephone: +381 11 2451 750
Fax: +381 11 2451 289
Web address of the Library: www.nb.rs

I General overview of recent major developments

1. Reconstruction of the Department for preservation and conservation of old and rare library material was finished. In the year 2007 the plan for reconstruction of this department was made and included reconstruction of the conservation and restauration laboratory and microfilm centre. The new and modern equipment was purchased. Reconstruction was started in December 2007 and finished in August 2008. In September of 2008 the NLS organized the opening ceremony with the presence of the Minister of Culture, the Minister of the National Investment Plan (NIP – which financially supported this project), other guests and the NLS staff. The event was very good covered in Serbian media. A new conservation laboratory with a modern equipment is now the best laboratory of its kind in the whole Serbia.

2. The NLS published reprint edition of the international avangarde review for culture and arts **“Zenit 1921-1926”** and book about it. The NLS, the Institute for Literature and Arts (Belgrade) and Serbian cultural society “Prosvjeta” (Zagreb, Croatia) were copublishers of this very precious reprint edition. This capital edition includes all items of this review published since 1921 to 1926. The authors of the book about “Zenit” are two eminent Serbian researchers. The edition is printed in the Serbian Institute for the banknotes and the quality of illustrations (photographs and reproductions) is very high. Complete edition can be searched via the NLS web site in digital form, and is included in the World Digital Library. Promotion of the edition was successfully organized in “Prosvjeta” in Zagreb, in the Museum of Arts and Crafts in Belgrade, in the NLS and in the Belgrade City Assembly. At the Belgrade Book Fair in October 2008 this reprint edition received the award of the best publishing project, and authors of the book received the prestigious award of the Serbian Library Association “Stojan Novakovic”.

3. The NLS signed the agreement with the Library of Congress on 17th April 2008 and became the partner in the project **“World Digital Library”** (WDL). At this moment, the NLS was the eighth library partner in this important world library project – together with the Library of Congress, Bibliotheca Alexandrina and national libraries of Egypt, Brazil, Japan, China and Russia. The WDL makes available on the Internet, free of charge and in multilingual format, significant primary materials from countries and cultures around the world. In April 2009 the WDL portal was launched and put into operational level in the UNESCO headquarter in Paris. Miroslav Gospel, Serbian manuscript from the year 1180 (which is part of the UNESCO “Memory of the World” register) and already mentioned review “Zenit” are the first collections from Serbia, which became online accessible at the WDL portal. Mr. Sreten Ugričić, the director of the NLS, was selected for a member of the Selection committee of this project.

4. The NLS signed the agreement with CENL (Conference of European National Librarians) on the continuation of the cooperation in the project **“The European Library”** (TEL) for the period 2008-2011. The NLS is a full partner in this project from July 2005. Many NLS digital collections are online accessible at the TEL portal, as well as at the portal of Europeana.

5. Codes for Serbian and Croatian language were changed in ISO 639-2 B (for bibliographic databases). The NLS has initiated the change of the codes in ISO 639-2 (B) for Serbian and Croatian language. The initiative was accepted by the Institute for Standardization of Serbia, by the National and University Library in Zagreb and by the

Croatian Institute for Standards. During the visit of the NLS experts to the National and University library in Zagreb in March 2008, the common request of four institutions was created and directors of four institutions have signed this joint request. Mr. Sreten Ugricic, director of the NLS, during his visit to the Library of Congress in Washington in April 2008, officially submitted a request in the registration agency for ISO 639-2. In June 2008 the official letter came from the registration agency with the confirmation that the request was accepted. This means that in the future in the bibliographic database in the whole world, according to the accepted changes in ISO 639-2 (B), the Serbian language will have the code **srp** (instead of the previous **scs**), and the Croatian language will have the code **hrv** (instead of the previous **scr**). This result is of great importance for Serbia and for Croatia, because the International Organization for Standardization finally acknowledged the existence of separate languages - Serbian and Croatian.

6. Reconstruction of the interior of the Library

The general project of reconstruction was finished in 2006, one of the famous contemporary architect was selected on public invitation. After very complicated procedure of public tender, realized during the year 2006 and first half of 2007, the NLS selected the company which will renovate the Library and works started on 1st October 2007. From this date the NLS is closed for users, unfortunately, and it will be opened after the reconstruction. For urgent researchers needs the NLS opened one little reading room with only eight seats where they can find unique documents which is possible to find only in the NLS.

The Library building is from 1973 and it was not reconstructed more than 30 years. From the National Investment Plan, the Government of the Republic of Serbia donated to the NLS the fund for the reconstruction of about 2,5 million of euros. The Reconstruction of the NLS Interior includes many segments: the main entrance hall for users with exhibition space, the stairway of the entrance hall for users, the toilets, the coffee bar, the NLS Atrium, the main hall, the main reading room, the scientific reading room, reading room for blind persons, for legacies, for special collection, the official entrance, the apartment for foreign guests-researchers, the complete lighting of the NLS (interior and exterior), the whole infrastructure for acclimatization, electricity, computer network. The number of user seats will be increased for about 50%. The NLS will have more than 700 user seats and each of them will have the Internet connection. It was planned that the reconstruction will be finished at the end of the year 2008. Unfortunately, because of the economic crisis in the whole world, and in Serbia too, the works on reconstruction were stopped in March 2009 because of the lack of the financial resources for finalizing it. The reconstruction is finished at the level of 60%.

II Note of the reporting library's relationship to government

The NLS is working according to the "Law on Libraries" (Official Journal of the Republic of Serbia, 34/94). This Law is not adequate to the actual library and information environment, and the NLS with all Serbian libraries and the Ministry of culture prepared the draft of the new Law which is now in public debate in Serbian library community.

The NLS is receiving the Legal deposit according to the Law on cultural heritage (Official Journal of the Republic of Serbia, 71/94) and has a many problems in its everyday work because of the obsolescence of this Law. The NLS, together with The Library of Matica srpska from Novi Sad (National library for the Vojvodina region) prepared the new Law on Legal Deposit which is now in the process of adoption.

The Serbian Ministry of culture established in 2008 the working group with the task to create the Strategy of digitization of cultural heritage and this document will be finished during the year 2009.

The NLS, the Library of Matica srpska from Novi Sad, the Serbian Library Association and the Serbian Parent libraries Community prepared the document "Standards for public libraries" which will be adopted very soon in Serbian Ministry of culture.

The NLS also prepared, in cooperation with Serbian libraries, two other important library acts:

"Rules on conditions for obtaining the professional titles in librarianship and information sciences" and "Rules on national professional library exam".

III Key facts and figures

holdings – number of items (total)	5.800.000
new acquisitions	100.000 items
users and circulation	library is closed **
NLS website visits during the year 2008	3.125.261
publishing activities	24 titles
number of PC	290
number of servers	23
staff – full-time employees	255
staff – employees on contract	21
total annual budget (Ministry of Culture)	2.300.000€
Ministry of Science – acquisition of foreign databases and journals	1.600.000€
Financial resources provided by different international foundations and donators	110.000 €

Web statistics

The Digital Library of Serbia is daily visited by 1.600 virtual users; in total for 2008 it is 584.000. The NLS website itself is daily visited by 1.200 virtual users; in total for 2008 it is 438.000. The Virtual Library of Serbia (Union catalogue) is visited during the year 2008 by 949.753 users and searched by 453.246 users. The KoBSON web site (Consortia of Serbian Libraries for coordinated acquisition of foreign databases and full-text services) is visited by 1.153.508 users which downloaded 824.478 articles in full format.

IV New developments in creating, building and managing collections and providing access to them

The VLS is the project of building of library information system and integration of different library catalogues. During the year 2003 the union national catalogue was created of the four main libraries in Serbia. During the year 2005-2008 many other university and public libraries in Serbia became the members of the national system based on the Slovenian software platform Cobiss. Now, at the system the NLS has in total 144 libraries from Serbia. During the year 2008, 22 new public libraries were included in the VLS system. The Ministry of culture gave the support for the creation of this central national cataloguing system by paying the membership and maintenance fees for each library and the trainings for librarians. In the union database there are now more than two million records. One of the very important tasks is to train all librarians at the system, so the NLS has about 25 different courses per year and now in Serbia we have about 460 trained librarians with licences to work in the system.

Digital Library of Serbia (DLS)

During the year 2004 at the Library was established the new Digital centre with 9 specialists. At this moment the NLS purchased the new hybrid line for microfilming and scanning and one professional scanner of high resolution - Book Eye. At the end of 2008, the NLS purchased two new professional scanners.

The NLS created microfilms and digital copies of old newspaper *Politika* for the period 1904- 2004 (in total about 550.000 digital images). Our specialists created the adequate application for searching digital images and its metadata.

In the home page of the Library, the separate link to the Digital Library is included, and DLS has about 80 different collections and almost two million digital documents. It has the following content: Cyrillic manuscripts (598 manuscripts), Epic national poetry (8 collections, 21 volumes, 1254 poems), Old and rare books (167 books), Modern books (about 400 books), Newspapers and journals – in total 26 titles, Cartographic materials - 3 digital collections, Engravings and art material - 9 digital collections, Printed music and sound records (150 digital gramophone records on 78 rpm), Photographic documents – 9 digital collections, Posters and documentary materials – 6 digital collections, Catalogues and bibliographies, Miscellaneous.

The NLS has also created the database for retrieval of digital documents as a central index. In the database we have about 20.000 titles with about two million of digital images and documents.

The NLS has not yet established the web archive, but has the intention to implement it during the year 2009.

Consortia KoBSON and Institutional open repository

During the year 2003 the NLS formally established the Consortia of Serbian Libraries for coordinated acquisition of foreign databases and full-text services (KoBSON). The NLS is the Centre and the coordinated body charged for all activities concerning the cooperation with ministries, publishing houses in the world and the financial resources, as well as the centre for promotional and educational activities concerning provided electronic resources. During the year 2008, in the framework of the Consortia and with the support of the Ministry of science (about 1, 6 million of euros) the Library provided more than 600 foreign printed journals and subscribed to 25 foreign electronic services for online journals. Now, 140 Serbian research libraries are members of the Consortia and they all can access about 35.000 electronic journals in full-text form in their libraries and researchers from their homes. During the year 2008 Consortia organized about 40 training courses concerning the access to scientific and technical electronic information in Serbia. The new Guide to KoBSON is printed and distributed in the Serbian scientific community.

During the year 2006 KoBSON started to create the Institutional open repository of Serbian scientific journals. In the first year we had 10 titles and now we have already 40 titles. The project was realized in cooperation of Ministry of Science, NLS and scientific publishers. Each article has DOI number and the complete collection of articles presents the open archive.

When the DOI system is implemented in the NLS in 2006, in the ISI list of the 8500 most representative world scientific journals, there were only 4 titles from Serbia, and now there are 13 titles from Serbia.

V Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions

The NLS is one of the founder institutions of the National Centre for Digitization (NCD) which was established in 2003. The consortium NCD includes Mathematical institute Belgrade, NLS, National Museum Belgrade, Archaeological Institute Belgrade, Archives of Republic Serbia, Serbian Institute for Monument Protection, and Mathematical faculty Belgrade. The NCD is publishing every year the Review of the National Centre for Digitization and is organizing annual conferences on digitization. The NCD is also the coordinator of the South-Eastern European Digitization Initiative (SEEDI) which was founded on 2004. The Eighth National Conference "New Technologies and Standards: Digitization of National Heritage" was held in Belgrade on April 15-16, 2009. The fourth SEEDI International Conference "Digitization of cultural and scientific heritage" was held in Belgrade on June 12-15, 2008.

The NLS mobile team for digitization visited 20 parent libraries in Serbia, digitized some of its regional cultural heritage collections, trained the staff in them and now the NLS is in process to post the portal of Serbian libraries digital cultural heritage.