

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2009

Name of Country: Slovakia

Name of Library: Slovak National Library

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1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.

The Slovak National Library (SNL) is an initiator, creator and executor of the strategies on a national level – Proposal of the Slovak librarianship strategy 2008-2013 and Digitization strategy in Slovakia.

It is the initiator and participant in both national and international projects (Program of internet implementation in the Slovak libraries, European Library, European Digital Library – Europeana, Network with information connection of scientific, academic and special libraries including their modernization, Slovak Digital Library national project, etc.).

Within the framework of the Proposal of the Slovak librarianship strategy 2008-2013 the SNL will participate at the creation of its Action plan.

Significant accent is put on the preservation of cultural heritage in accordance with the realization of the Slovak Digital Library project. This project belongs to the SNL priorities for the nearest future.

The restoration and conservation activities are oriented to preservation of historical newspapers by using the progressive laminating technologies. The SNL participates at solving of the Program for development and usage of mass deacidification as well as of the Project on preservation, stability and conservation of classical information carriers. The completion of the Conservation, preservation and processing of parchment documents is considered to be a significant issue.

There is the plan to build up the Integrated competence centre, Technological centre (IKT/TC), respectively Hi-tech centre (HTC) which will integrate digitization, microfilming and disinfection processes including research and education of given fields.

In 2009 the SNL plans to improve the cooperation with Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles which will contribute to photographs conservation and restoration in Slovakia. The agreement signed by representatives from Getty Conservation Institute, Slovak National Library and Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava is an important evidence of the effort devoted to this field.

In 2008 the Strategy of collecting and memory institutions in the culture sector was approved by the Ministry of Culture. Within the strategy two national projects are solved in the SNL:

- Establishment of the central deacidification workplace in Vrútky (branch of the SNL)
- Digitization of the text documents and library collections

2. Note of the reporting library's relationship to government, and citation of legislation which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations.

The SNL main activities are defined in the Library Act no. 183/2000 and in the Memorandum of the SNL.

The SNL was established on July 1, 2000 after the separation from the Matica slovenská. The seat of the SNL is Martin. The Slovak National Literary Museum and the Slavic Museum of A. S. Puškin in Brodzany form inseparable parts of the SNL.

The SNL acquires the library materials on the base of the Legal Deposit Act no. 212/1997, by purchase, donors and via international exchange of documents.

The SNL has participated at the creation of a new internet annual statement of library activities (performance indicators). At the same time the guidelines explaining the indicators were provided to libraries.

In 2008 the Slovak ISMN Agency has started its operation in accordance with a revised ISO 10957 standard.

3. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc).

Collections	4 696 913 items
Circulations	316 825 items
Users + visitors	9 425 + 112 928
Conservation + restoration	3 353 + 458 items
Staff	265
Budget 2008 (Incl. EU funds)	10 mil. €

4. New developments in creating and building collections.

Creating and building collections is closely connected to the proposal for revision of Legal Deposit Act. The SNL is the initiator of this process and within it the SNL has prepared basic principles for revision of the Act. The main issue concerns the problems of electronic legal copies – offline and online ones.

5. New developments in managing collections.

In 2008 the SNL has prepared the special process to follow the flow of the documents between the main stock and circulations. This step helps to register the flow of documents and makes the library services more efficient.

6. New developments in providing access to collections.

The library services started to implement two new services to users:

- Ask the library (via telephone through internet)
- Ask the library online chat (via ICQ and SKYPE)

The SNL regularly provides the services of the European Council Information Point and of the Patent Centre of the Office for Industrial Property.

The SNL has coordinated the Slovak project of the national licence of EBSCO databases and provided access to external information resources (ISI Web of Knowledge, ASPI, BiblioMedica, Czech National Bibliography, Gale Military, etc.).

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

The Slovak National Literary Museum has started to test the electronic processing of the museum collections in a new program – Vital. The records of museum objects were connected to digital images. At the same time the SNLM has prepared the documentation for the program concerning the development of collecting and memory institutions containing the amount of museum objects which will be included to the digitization of museum collections

(cca. 18 000 objects).

8. Digital Library

On March 1, 2008 the Slovak Digital Library Dpt. was established in the SNL. Its main activities are devoted to projects and tasks concerning digitization and digital preservation. In autumn 2008 key elements of technological infrastructure for digitization and digital preservation were installed – modular data centre (BlackBox), equipment for long term digital archiving (robotic tape library with initial capacity of 1 500 TB expandable to 52 000 TB).

Thanks to the project called “Information for Innovation” supported by European Union structural funds the first digitization robot was purchased and installed in reconstructed area of the SNL. The testing procedures concern the digitization of images and their basic processing a preparation for optical character recognition, indexing and structural analysis.

The Slovak Digital Library (SDL) has participated at the TELplus project. Within its framework 390 000 newspaper and journals pages were digitized. The SNL has provided authority records in SKOS scheme for testing of thesauri and controlled vocabularies functions.

The SDL has participated at the preparation of European Digital Library as a national partner in the EDLnet Project.

The SDL has prepared and submitted the documentation for the EuropeanaTravel Project and will provide picture postcards, maps, travelogues and other documents from the SNL collections.