

ANNUAL REPORT to CDNL 2010

Name of country: **Russian Federation**

Name of library or equivalent national-level organization: **Federal State Institution «Russian State Library» (RSL), Moscow**

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

A new RSL Statute was approved by the Decree of the Russian Federation Government (31 December 2009, No 1190). In this Statute a new position of the Federal State Institution «Russian State Library» President was established.

The Minister of Culture Alexander Avdeev ratified for this position Victor Fedorov, the former Director General of the RSL.

In the framework of the official event «Year of Russia in France» a unique art exhibition was organized at the Louvre Museum (March 2 — May 24, 2010). 24 Russian museums, archives and national libraries took part in the exhibition «Holy Russia and Russian art since ancient time up to the Peter the Great Epoch». The RSL displayed 4 ancient manuscripts there.

For the 180th anniversary of Nicolai F. Fedorov (Николай Фёдорович Фёдоров), the famous Russian librarian, intellectual companion of Leo Tolstoy, Feodor Dostoevsky etc, and outstanding Russian thinker, a founder of Russian cosmism, a set of collected articles was published under the title «Serving Spirit of the Eternal Memory» (Служитель духа вечной памяти) representing authors from Russia, Ukraine, Serbia, Poland, USA and Japan.

To mark the 150th jubilee of Anton Chekhov's birth (17 January 1860), the Library prepared a large number of textual and bibliographic materials on his works, critiques of Chekhov's plays etc, which were presented on the portal «Anton Pavlovich Chekhov» and an exhibition under the name «The Human being — it is that in what he believes» (Человек — это то, во что он верит. А.П. Чехов).

The design concept of a new building for the RSL is under development. The sketch draft of the RSL Digital Library was prepared for its new building. The new building should be situated very close to the present complex of RSL buildings and is planned to be open in 2015. According to conceptual engineering of the new buildings the total size should be about 83K m².

The RSL launched the preparation of the All Russian Libraries Census being the main coordinator of this forthcoming work.

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:

Interaction with the legislative organ (the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation) and administrative structures:

The RSL organized the meeting of the Council on State Cultural Policy on the theme «Law regulation of the library profession: problems and perspective» which was held at the Federation Council – under the leadership of the Chairman of the Federation Council (February 2010);

Regular meetings on library jurisprudence were held with the members of the Committee on Culture in the State Duma;

The Working Group for professional discussion of legislative documents relating to the library profession was formed within the Public Council Supporting Russian Libraries

Development on the RSL base. Now it is working on the amendments to the Federal Law on legal deposit for libraries («On Legal Deposit»);

Regular meetings were held with deputies and representatives of Public Committee at the President for discussing library legislative matters;

As a result: some changes and amendments to the Federal Law «On librarianship» were made, and work was carried out to amend the Federal Law «On Legal Deposit» and Part 4 of the Civil Code of the RF and some other federal laws concerning library matters.

There was close collaboration with the Minister of Culture and the Ministry management on various library problems.

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

As at the end 2009:

Size of collection: 44m items; among them: 12.7m foreign document items; including books & brochures: 17.5m items; journals: 13.0m items; serials: 1.4m items; newspapers: 683,900 annual complete sets; pieces of printed sheet music: 372,000 items; maps: 150,700 items; art productions: 1.3m items; dissertations: 976,100 items; archive and manuscript materials: 561,100 items; documents in microform: 3.3m items; integrated electronic library: 430,100 titles; Digital Dissertation Library of RSL: 398,700 titles.

Reading rooms: 37; user seats: 2238; virtual reading rooms of RSL Digital Dissertation Library: 377 (in cities of the RF & in 10 CIS countries); items received by users in reading rooms: 10.2m; registered users: 609,800.

Card catalogues: 69.5m records; the electronic catalogue: 4.7m records; the RSL's own databases: 6.2m records; visits to the RSL website: 3.01m.

International book exchange: 930 partners from 92 countries; interlibrary loan: 606 partners.

Bibliographic consultations: 428,500; thematic exhibitions: 230.

Total operating budget: 1.57 billion rubles.

Staff: 2102; staff salaries: 438m rubles.

4. New developments in creating and building collections:

The Library's collection development strategy integrates analogue and digital content.

An all-Russian master class on the work with the book monuments was held in the RSL. It was organized according to the RSL's function as a Federal Research Methodological Coordination Centre on work with book monuments.

During the whole period of the existence of books, federal libraries, museums and universities have used the concepts of «rare» and «precious». The term «Book Monument» introduces the notion of most valuable objects of cultural heritage. The notion is adopted and approved on the legal level.

The Federal Law «On bringing in change in the Federal Law “On Librarianship”» obliges all institutions to maintain the Register of Book Monuments, recording single items as well as collections. Among the main goals of the programme are: creation of the united distributed collection of book monuments; creation of a digital All-Russian Register of Book Monuments; discovery, including research description and popularization of the collection of book monuments.

In compliance with Part IV of the Civil Code of the RF, since 2008 the RSL has been using the system DefView with protected viewing of documents, which assures functioning of the Digital Dissertation Library.

5. New developments in managing collections:

Advanced technology of library collection preservation within a sub-programme Conservation of library collections of the Federal targeted programme «Culture of Russia 2006—2010» was recommended for testing.

6. New developments in providing access to collections:

The RSL continues to work actively with foreign and national firms, information structures, publishing organizations, in order to provide access to new electronic resources for the RSL's users.

Our readers have open access to new electronic collections: annual review; ISI WEB of Knowledge – Conference Proceedings and Journal Citation Reports; to 16 thematic collections new electronic books of leading science publishers such as Emerald Group, Springer, Oxford University Press and etc.

The users have test access to 6 English electronic sociological journals from Sage Publications; to 9 American journals on oncology; access to the BBC Monitoring Library, Proceedings of the National Academy of Science and the Geological Society of London, etc.

The contents of the RSL digital library increased with the addition of 6K new records of the collection «Early printed books»; 40K records of the «Universal collection»; 19th century literature published during the lifetime of the authors, as well as other documents, such as diaries, memoirs, notes of foreigners on their visits to Russia; rare foreign publications. Among them the collection «Liberal thought of Europe, 17th to early 19th centuries», including works of Denis Diderot, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, John Locke, etc.

The RSL in partnership with the Russian Library Association, Interregional Committee on cataloguing, the Russian National Library and the Russian Book Chamber prepared the «Russian cataloguing rules» in 2 parts: P.1 «General stipulation and rules», P. 2 «Special cataloguing rules for specific types of documents». And one volume publication revised is considered now as the best research publication in 2009.

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

Close partnership relations have been developed (in the form of a Collaboration Council) with the Russian National Library (Saint Petersburg) and the Presidential Library, named after the first President of the RF Boris Yeltsin.

Collaboration between the RSL (Moscow) and the RNL (Saint Petersburg) on a regular annual basis has been maintained.

OCLC Question Point / and Ask a Librarian were developed separately but with regular consultation during the year.

As well mutual consultation and partnership are maintained with TEL (for example, «100 best books» are selected), Europeana and WDL matters.

National libraries of the CIS countries — Eurasian Library Assembly members started to realize a joint project «The Gold Collection of Euroasia». Its goal is the creation of a digital collection of book monuments, specific for the people of the states, which reflects historical roots, cultural and spiritual relations and interaction between peoples of the Commonwealth of Independent States. It means that «The gold collection» is presented in abstract and bibliographic information on publications, accompanied by digital images.

The «Catalogue of Medieval and Modern West-European Manuscripts in the collections of the RSL» has been implemented – this is a joint project of the RSL, the State Library in Berlin «Prussian Cultural Heritage» and the University of Freiburg (Germany).