

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL

YEAR 2011

Name of country: **Latvia**

Name of library or equivalent national-level organization: **National Library of Latvia (NLL)**

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Headings:

General overview of recent major developments at the National Library of Latvia.

- In November 2012 the construction of the new building of the NLL (Castle of Light <http://www.lnb.lv/en/home/learn-more-about-the-new-nll>) will be completed and in 2010 library has done major planning for transportation of collections, development of services, and establishment of field councils with participation of highly qualified professionals from other institutions.
- The **National Library of Latvia Research Papers** (NLL RP) collection was published. NLL RP is a longstanding international and interdisciplinary research publication, which represents all aspects of library science. The 2010 volume is significant, because it is also the NLL 90th anniversary issue, reflecting the diversity of library research (theoretical and practical alike) as well as emphasizing the role of the NLL as a research centre of excellence in Latvia.
- On June 18 the floor of the repository in the main building of the National Library of Latvia in the centre of Riga collapsed. 1200 books (one copy) fell in damp cellar. More than 77 thousand books located close to the place of the accident were endangered. This part of the repository consists of the newest books highly demanded from library clients (books published from 1990 till 2010 – foreign literature). Thanks to fast and professional action of fire brigade and rescuers in couple of hours the books were evacuated from the cellar with the help of the library staff. Everybody acknowledged that the National Library of Latvia needs a new building.
- Due to the economic recession the funding for the National Library of Latvia has decreased jeopardizing operation and activities of the library. Starting from 2010 library is closed also on Mondays.
- Exhibitions and activities (Chopin 200, participation at the Museums' Night, the European Researchers' Night and many others).

The National Library of Latvia relationship to government, citation of legislation which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations.

- National Library of Latvia is a state financed direct administration institution under supervision of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. Budgetary means allocated for its operation are assigned by the Ministry of Culture according to the annual law on state budget. State budget consists of subsidies from general income, paid services and other income.
- NLL represents Latvia in library operation related international organizations, participates in development and implementation of sector specific international programs, and cooperates with foreign libraries in accordance with inter-governmental and direct agreements.

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

Key facts given by 01.01.2011.

- Number of registered users: 43070
- Number of visits: 717859
- Number of loans: 1125944
- Collection (total number of units): 4 082 357
 - Books: 1 999 939
 - Serials: 828 941
 - audiovisual materials: 66 892
 - sheet music: 219 444
 - graphic documents: 224 935
 - other 741 134
- Number of personnel: 344
 - Including 243 librarians
- Size of premises used by NLL: 15694,35 m²
- Number of places for readers: 320
- Total budget year 2009: 3709104 LVL (5277609 EUR) *
Including:
 - Financing from state budget: 3596247 LVL (5117027 EUR)
 - Other financing 112857 LVL (160581 EUR)
- Expenses – salaries: 2147420 LVL (3055521 EUR)
- Expenses – social insurance, allowances, compensations: 646033 LVL (919227 EUR)
- Expenses – building of collection:
 - books 49113 LVL (69882 EUR)
 - periodicals 12467 LVL (17739 EUR)

- donations 20199 LVL (28741 EUR)
- databases 21304 LVL (30313 EUR)
- Expenses – services: 383309 LVL (545403 EUR)
- Expenses - IT services: 219553 LVL (312397 EUR)

* exchange rate Bank of Latvia 0.702804

2. New developments in creating and building collections

- Due to the budget cuts in 2010 the donations from organizations and individuals both in Latvia and abroad has been the basic source for the development of collection (more than 40 000 items in 2010).
- Three year SWEDBANK donation project (launched in 2009) in collaboration with the Foundation of the National Library of Latvia has considerably helped the development of the collection of NLL in 2010.
- Thanks to Maecenas donation (100 000 EUR) in two years more than 500 publications have been bought, mostly valuable encyclopedias and reference books. That is very important support, even more in the situation when the funding for information resources has been reduced 50 % since 2008.
- In 2010 the development, planning and restructuralisation of collection for the new building has been continued (free access and content, e-resources within the National Digital Library, projects with University of Latvia, for example Establishment of the Library of East Asian Research Centre and others.

New developments in creating and building digital collections.

- In January mass digitalization of NLL resources was started within the framework of the project **Development of Digital Library – Stage 2** supported by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The project was started in July 2009 and the following activities will be realized till 2012:
 - 3500000 pages of books and newspapers processed by developing digital copies and ensuring remote public access to the digital collections via electronic communications channels;
 - Single architecture and the public access ensured to the archives of Latvian cultural and historical internet sites (approx. 3000 sites);
 - Records of national editions digitized and published in the National Electronic Database (600000 records);
 - Development of digitisation infrastructure.

In the middle of year 2012 the results of the project will be accessible to the online users: a new e-service – electronic reading and full text searching of the digitized material of cultural and historical significance; usability improvement of e-services of the National Electronic Database; realization of the second stage of development of digital collection of historical Latvian periodicals www.periodika.lv, which will considerably increase publicly available content.
- Project financed by ERDF and the Government of the Republic of Latvia **Development of Services of Digital Library** was started in the second half of 2010. The following activities will be realized within the project by the end of 2012:
 - Development of single point digital resource discovery service;

- Development of digital library resource for children;
 - Development of digital library interface for mobile devices;
 - Development of digital library interface for map resource;
 - Development of digital library resource for people with disabilities;
 - Development of digital library infrastructure – management of digital records, single sign-on and personalisation service, digitisation on-demand service.
- The realisation of the project financed by the European Economic Area Financial Instrument with the support coming from Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway ***Preservation of Graphic Issues from Nonconformist Art During Soviet Period in Latvia and Provision of Required Materials and Equipment*** was continued. The total cost of the project is 517 415 EUR including EEA Financial Instrument co-financing of 439 803 EUR. The main aim of the project, which is reflected in its title, was to preserve, through restoration and conservation, the physical graphic art of the Soviet period (drawings, prints, posters and bookplates) as well as to digitise and collate digital copies into a national data base that anyone interested can access at the Latvian National Digital Library. The project began in the second half of 2009 and is notable for the considerable number of partners involved. Apart from the National Library, which was in charge of the project, the other institutions that undertook the preservation of their collections were the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia, Riga Museum of History and Navigation, Latvian National Museum of Art, the Museum of the Latvian Artists' Union, the Latvian War Museum, the Cēsis Museum of History and Art and the Latvian National Archive.
 - The participation of two projects of eContentPlus framework – Europeana Local and Europeana Travel - was continued. In the framework of Europeana Local NLL developed a network of more than 30 regional partners – local museums, libraries and individual collectors – in order to digitise 19 000 historic and modern photographs of Latvian landscape and to feed the content into Europeana. In the framework of Europeana Travel NLL digitised 200 historical maps and 5000 pages of books on travel and Latvian geography.
 - NLL has taken an active part in the development of two virtual exhibitions of The European Library project – Reading Europe and Travelling Through History, contributing 72 historic books in Latvian, German, Russian and Latgalian to the first and 20 historic maps to the second.
 - NLL has been involved in development of the World Digital Library, bringing in digital objects selected in the national register of UNESCO World Memory program.

3. New developments in managing collections

- The systematic building of the collection is based on principles developed 10 years ago – the major part of the collection is in humanitarian and social sciences.

- The major planning for the transportation of the collection to the new building of the National Library of Latvia has been done. The transportation is planned starting from December 2012 till September 2013. Today collection of the NLL is scattered located in 5 buildings.

New developments in managing digital collections.

- In collaboration with Microsoft Corporation Digital Object Management system (DOM) has been developed and put into operation. System's compatibility for data delivery for TEL and Europeana has been ensured.

4. New developments in providing access to collections

- The development of the new web page has been started.
- Each month a newsletter with a list of new acquisitions is sent to a group of selected recipients and also published in the web page of the library www.lnb.lv. The service was launched in 2008.
- The blog of the National Library of Latvia (launched in 2009) has received wide audience <http://blogs.lnb.lv>
- Many activities have been carried out in social media. The library is active user and has its account in twitter, facebook, draugiem.lv, slideshare, flickr and others. Also interacting with users in a creative way and seeking to involve audience in different crowdsourcing events and projects. Single pieces from digital collections had been gradually marketed via social media channels to accustom the regular and potential users to use digital resources daily.

New developments in providing access to digital collections.

- In collaboration with Microsoft Corporation interface for the Digital Object Management system (DOM) has been developed and put into operation.
- The pilot project has been realized testing the georeferencing and multilayered representation of historic topographic maps.
- An access point to the historic photographs of Latvian landscape "Zudusī Latvija" ("In search of Lost Latvia) has been created to showcase the content digitized during Europeana Local project.
- An open-access repository "Academia" has been established to support the national research program "National Identity".

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

- The realisation of the project financed by the European Economic Area Financial Instrument ***Preservation of Graphic Issues from Nonconformist Art During Soviet Period in Latvia and Provision of Required Materials and Equipment*** is an excellent example of collaboration of memory institutions: the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia, Riga Museum of History and Navigation, Latvian National Museum of Art, the Museum of the Latvian Artists' Union, the Latvian War Museum, the Cēsis Museum of History and Art, the Latvian

National Archive and the National Library of Latvia. Such broad collaboration on a national scale between various institutions of memory is unique for Latvia because of the differences in basic working principles of museums, libraries and archives.

- In the framework of Europeana Local NLL developed a network of more than 30 regional partners – local museums, libraries and individual collectors – in order to digitise 19 000 historic and modern photographs of Latvian landscape and to feed the content into Europeana.