

ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL

YEAR 2012

Name of country: **Latvia**

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

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Headings:

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

- In May 2011 the ridgepole celebration of the NLL new building took place.
- In year 2013 the construction of the new building of the NLL (Castle of Light <http://www.gaismaspils.lv>) will be completed and in 2011 library has continued the planning for transportation of collections, development of services, and work of the field councils with participation of highly qualified professionals from other institutions.
- In February 2011 two automatic digitalisation devices were bought with the support of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).
- In July 2011 free Internet access through Wi-Fi network is available in all reading rooms of the NLL.
- Exhibitions and activities: Terra Mariana exhibition devoted to reception of facsimile edition of the album "Terra Mariana" (1888) and Latvian Historian congress; participation in the "Night of Museums", the "European Researchers' Night", festival of light "Staro Riga" and many others.

2. 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.

- NLL 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.

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

Key facts given by 01.01.2012.

- Number of registered users: 91 603
- Number of visits: 740 931
- Number of loans: 664 348
- Collection (total number of units): 4 095 895
 - Books: 1 967 142
 - Serials: 844 942
 - audiovisual materials: 67 133
 - sheet music: 220 077
 - graphic documents: 227 898
 - other 768 703
- Number of personnel: 328
 - Including 187 librarians
- Size of premises used by NLL: 16 749 m²
- Number of places for readers: 320
- Total budget year 2011: 3 464 792 LVL (4 929 983 EUR) *
 - Including:
 - Financing from state budget: 2 155 952 LVL (3067661 EUR)
 - Other financing 1 308 840 LVL (1862322 EUR)
- Expenses – salaries: 1 476 046 LVL (2100236 EUR)
- Expenses – social insurance, allowances, compensations: 348 674 LVL (496 121 EUR)
- Expenses – building of collection:
 - books 71 575 LVL (101 843 EUR)
 - periodicals 13 847 LVL (19 703 EUR)
 - donations 20 000 LVL (28 457 EUR)
 - databases 11 276 LVL (16 044 EUR)
- Expenses – services: 510 738 LVL (726 719 EUR)
- Expenses - IT services: 627 174 LVL (892 393 EUR)

* exchange rate Bank of Latvia 0.702804

4. New developments in creating and building collections

- Due to the budget cuts in 2011 the donations from organizations and individuals both in Latvia and abroad has been the basic source for the development of the collection (more than 6000 items in 2011).

- Thanks to Maecenas donation (100 000 EUR) in three years more than 700 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.
- Thanks to Shanghai Library and “Window of Shanghai” project donation (2 258 EUR) in 2011 books about Chinese culture, art, architecture, literature, history and linguistics were bought. This donation is an important contribution for the establishment of the Library of East Asian Research Centre in the new building of the NLL.
- In 2011 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 in cooperation with University of Latvia and others.

New developments in creating and building digital collections.

- In year 2011 mass digitalization of NLL resources has been continued within the framework of the project “**Development of Digital Library – Stage 2**” supported by ERDF. The project was started in July 2009 and will end in July 2012. Project outcomes:
 - More than 3 500 000 pages of books and newspapers will be scanned, optically recognised, segmented and made publicly available in a structured and described manner;
 - public access to the archive of the web sites on Latvia cultural heritage will be created (about 3 000 sites; 5 thematic collections);
 - 600 000 bibliographic records of national publications will be digitized and published in National Analytics database;
 - digitization infrastructure will be developed.

In the middle of year 2012 the results of the project will be available 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 Analytics 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.

The digitalization project will be a significant contribution to the unified European digital library Europeana both quantitatively and by content.

- Project financed by ERDF and the Government of the Republic of Latvia “**Development of Digital Library Services**” was started in the second half of 2010. The following activities will be realized within the project by the first quarter of year 2013:
 - Unified resource aggregator, which will ensure search of information in NLL and its partners’ bibliographical resources, full-text databases, digital collections and archive of the web sites.
 - Portal for children, which will promote availability of Latvian and international cultural-historical values and information resources created for children audience in a unified and safe Internet system.
 - Electronic library for people with special needs, which will provide an opportunity to this group of society to conveniently use the resources of NLL and its partners.
 - Digitization per request, which will provide an opportunity to perform digitization and fast delivery of documents selected by the readers.

- Possibility to use thesaurus system for classified search of information.
 - Pilot project for old writing translation service, which will provide readers an opportunity to fast and conveniently transform the old Latvian texts into contemporary language by replacing archaisms, syntax and morphology of words.
 - Virtual private network service, which will provide NLL users possibility to remotely access the various information resources of NLL.
 - Service for viewing historical maps, which will provide both researchers and interested persons convenient navigation and finding of geographical names in Latvian maps created in various periods of time.
 - Pilot project for mobile library, which will allow NLL users to use iOS and Android-based mobile applications for viewing NLL digital content, making information search and using other services.
- 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 finished. Digitized objects are available in NLL Digital Object Management system <http://www.lndb.lv/lv/Lapas/Collection/urn.nbn.lv-digi-7366?returl=WhatsNew> (digital objects are available in closed Unified Library Information System network, metadata is publicly available).
 - The two projects of “eContentPlus” framework – “Europeana Local” and “Europeana Travel” was finished.

The NLL “Europeana Travel” project results (more than 19 000 historic and modern photographs of Latvian landscape) are available via public interface (www.zudusilatvija.lv) and in Europeana.

The NLL “Europeana Travel” project results (200 digitized historical maps and 5000 pages of books on travel and Latvian geography) are available in open-access repository “Academia” (<http://academia.lndb.lv/xmlui/handle/1/12>) and in Europeana.

- The 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. 20 items are now available at World Digital Library (<http://www.wdl.org>).
- Two projects of “ICT Policy Support Programme 2011” framework were approved by the European Commission – **“A Gateway to European Newspapers”** and **“Europeana Awareness”**.

European Newspaper digitalization project will be started in the first quarter of year 2012 and will run for three years. “A Gateway to European Newspapers” project participants are 17 European partner institutions (including the NLL). The main aim of the project is to provide access to digitized newspaper collections. More than 10 million newspaper pages will be added to the Europeana.

In the framework of “Europeana Awareness” the NLL will be promoting on a national scale the opportunities provided by the Europeana. A wide variety of media and channels, both online and offline, will be used to ensure promotion of appropriate and consistent messages to different stakeholder groups.

5. 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 May 2013 till the end of 2013. Today collection of the NLL is scattered located in 5 buildings.

New developments in managing digital collections.

- With the support of ERDF in collaboration with Proof IT Ltd. Digital Object Management system (DOM) will be improved by the first quarter of year 2013. Digital object centralized import, identification, quality control, long-term storage, retrieval and user interface development, and integration with the other NLL information systems are the main DOM functionality improvements that will be made.

6. New developments in providing access to collections

- The development of the new NLL web site has been continued.
- Each month a newsletter with a list of new acquisitions is sent to a group of selected recipients and also published in the web site 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, youtube 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.

- The Digital Object Management system (DOM) public interface was made publicly available in the middle of year 2011 (<http://www.lndb.lv>).

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

- The Academic Library of the University of Latvia is a faithful partner of NLL, who provided appropriate materials during the mass digitalization process of the NLL resources (within the framework of the project “Development of Digital Library – Stage 2”) to fill in the “gaps” that emerged from damaged or incomplete content.
- 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 digitize 19 000 historic and modern photographs of Latvian landscape and to feed the content into Europeana.