

National Library of Latvia

Annual Report to the CENL 2007 – 2008

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The total **collection (01.01.2007)** of the NLL made **4 072 188** items.

Owing to the increase in funding (4 274 574 Ls in 2007; 4 714 768 in 2008) it has allowed for further development of the collection – the number of books purchased in 2007 made 12 886 copies (in comparison with 9640 copies in 2006), including the purchase of precious samples of printed music.

Funds allocated to meet the operating costs of the Library have increased for 1, 68% in 2007. The main proportion in the total costs makes salaries amounting to 67,65% from the budget.

Electronic publications are available according to the Law on **Legal Deposit Copy of Latvia**.

In 2007 all the efforts were directed to facilitate the realization of the **new library building** to be erected in November 2012. For specification of the project intense work was carried out.

In 2007 the rooms on floors 4-5 in the central building have been refurbished, the total renovated space makes 153, 7 square m.

In the field of **digitization** the elaboration of the Object Management System (DOM) comes to the foreground. Simultaneously the improvement of the NLL infrastructure has started. In the period of report the NLL has launched an immense project – recognition and indexing of Latvian newspaper full texts.

For the first time the NLL has embarked on large volume scanning activities. In 2007 improvements in scanning equipment have been carried out.

The following **international co-operation** should be mentioned:

In 2007 the cooperation agreements between the NLL and the National Library of Karelia, the National Library of Azerbaidzhan, the National Library of Poland, the National Parliamentary Library of Georgia were concluded.

In the period of report the Library has participated in the work of several international organisations such as, IFLA, LIBER, IBBY, JAML, EBLIDA, CENL, CDNL, CERL, BIBLIOTHECA BALTICA, NORDINFO, ECPA, UNESCO, a.o.

In 2007 in accordance with the agreement between the agency “Culture Information Systems” and the NLL, the Training Centre of the NLL has organized the courses and seminars with the aim to improve **professional skills of librarians**. 528 librarians have participated in these courses.

In 2007 the **main indicators** have increased: the number of loans reached 1 855 419. Since 1997 the number of visits has almost doubled (from 395 694 in 1997 to 786 198 in 2007).

The number of readers has grown at the expense of remote users. The main reasons: formation of the new home page, increase in the document delivery service.

In 2007 the Library had 81 363 registered users.

What refers to **acquisition** the NLL has subscribed to seven new full text databases.

The Department of Rare Books and Manuscripts has purchased rare documents from Pāvils Vīlps' legacy, a book with J. Jaunsudrabiņš' autograph and other rarities.

International exchange of documents has taken place with 61 partners in 21 states.

In 2007 the formation of the collection of books published in Latvia at the Congress Library in the USA has started anew.

In 2007 evaluation of the contents of the collection has started, the branch literature is evaluated in the first stage; in 2008 the work will be continued, in parallel, evaluating the periodicals collection.

Within the framework of the target program of the State Culture Capital Foundation the NLL managed to develop the branch of **restoration** by purchasing the polyester materials of various thickness for conservation of posters, graphic materials and maps. The project "*Conservation of Posters at the National Library of Latvia*" has been supported.

The new scanning equipment purchased for the Library is an important improvement in the field of digital technologies.

In the period of report the exchange of **exhibitions** among foreign countries has turned out to be successful.

The NLL has displayed two significant exhibitions abroad.

The Exhibition "Book Art in Latvia" was mounted at the National and University Library in Zagreb to celebrate the Proclamation Day of Latvia and "The History of Latvia in Cartoons" at the National Library of the Netherlands in the Hague. Those exhibitions attracted a great deal of interest in November, 2007.

Two exhibitions, unveiling the treasures of the NLL, and having gained popularity on a local level, should be mentioned - *The Graphics of the 18th -20th Centuries* and *A Post Novel in Postcards* from the Department of Graphic Documents and Small Prints.

In 2007 the NLL has been attributed to the status of a **scientific research institution**, which corresponds to the criteria mentioned in the "Law on Scientific Research".