



Informationen zum Bibliothekswesen im Ostseeraum

Information on Librarianship in the Baltic Sea Region

NEWSLETTER OF THE BIBLIOTHECA BALTICA WORKING GROUP

Newsletter - No. 21 - June 2011



Berlin was the location for a Conference on Cultural Diversity, Language and Digital Content,
5-7 April 2011.

Photo: Catharina Melldahl

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The Bibliotheca Baltica Newsletter is published at least once every year. A paper version is sent to all members of Bibliotheca Baltica, an electronic version is available on the internet at <http://baltica.lnb.lv>

Membership:

Bibliotheca Baltica invites all interested libraries to join the association in order to exchange information, to promote and to preserve the cultural heritage of the Baltic Sea Area, to initiate medium and large scale projects and to meet colleagues from the same field of interest.

The annual membership fee is 60 Euro (2011).

Please contact the secretary, Jürgen Warmbrunn, at the address above if you have any further questions about membership or if you have already decided to become a member of Bibliotheca Baltica



Photo: Jens Gustafsson

Digital projects and collaboration

We are in the process of building the digital library. We still have a long way to go for many library collections, but for many parts we already have digital solutions. Most of the research journals already exist in electronic versions. On the other hand, we have waited for the break-through for the e-book for a long time. Maybe it's coming now with iPads, but still most of the books are in printed versions. (Last year the book-production of printed books increased in Sweden.) Even if we together digitize a lot of books, films, etc it will take a long time until we have digitized all the material.

We are transforming national libraries, research libraries, public libraries and other libraries with the help of the web, the influx of born digital material and countless digitization projects. This development process is combined with demands for new ways of collaboration and coordination, nationally and internationally. We need to have close collaboration in digitization and preservation issues, and also in what concerns metadata and technical solutions.

In the international collaboration we have moved from the exchange of experiences to joint projects. Internationalization is of course one of the most important challenges for our libraries, as it is for the rest of our society. Within the library world - and it is the same situation for other sectors - national boundaries have ceased to exist, and the user wants to find needed information as easily as possible, regardless of origin. It is in this perspective we have to see organizations like Bibliotheca Baltica and Baltic Writers Union. From our governments' point of view international collaboration around the Baltic Sea is a high priority.

I would like to give you three examples of how we in Sweden present our literature on the web. Together with the Swedish Academy, which you may have heard of in connection with the Nobel Prize, Gothenburg University and other Swedish distinguished academies and centers of learning, the National Library has started to digitize Swedish literary classics, releasing scholarly editions on the web. The project is called the Swedish Literary Bank. In Finland there is a similar project, the Literary Bank.

Together with Gothenburg University and Uppsala University, the National Library of Sweden is building a portal featuring the works of the Nobel prize winner Selma Lagerlöf. In this we will include new editions alongside academic criticism of her works, digitized letters and manuscripts, radio- and TV-programs with Selma, and other resources. We started this project some years ago with funding from the Swedish Riksbank's Foundation. We are at present seeking additional funding for the final stages of the project.

In another project we aim at bringing together Swedish literature from the 1940's - novels, short stories, etc - together with literary journals, radio programs and short films, and make it all accessible on the web. We have digitized most of the material and are now negotiating with the copyright organization about the rights. The project

will be ready for publication at the beginning of next year.

The Virtual Baltic Sea Library aspires to reinforce a common cultural identity for the Baltic Sea Region with the help of representative literary texts and networks which these texts engender. With its unique and engaging approach it has succeeded in creating new and vivid perceptions of commonness and cohesion. We who participated in the Berlin Conference in April 2011 are impressed with the enthusiasm and purposefulness of this project and strongly recommend a sympathetic consideration of its future efforts and endeavours.

Gunnar Sahlin, National Librarian of Sweden



From left to right: Renaldas Gudauskas, National Library of Lithuania, Jürgen Warmbrunn, Library of the Herder-Institute, Marburg, Germany, Irina Lynden, National Library of Russia, S:t Petersburg, Klaus-Jürgen Liedtke, Baltic Sea Library, Claudia Lux, Central and Regional Library Berlin, Jan Lundin, Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS), Gunnar Sahlin, National Library of Sweden at the Berlin Conference, April 2011.

Photo: C. Melldahl

Conference on Cultural Diversity, Language and Digital Content. Berlin, 5-7 April 2011



Photo: C. Melldahl

Welcome address to the Conference on Cultural Diversity, Language and Digital Content. Berlin 5 - 7 April 2011

Klaus-Jürgen Liedtke

Let me, as the organiser of this meeting, say a few words to welcome you, as I might be the only one whom all of you know. I want to thank the Federal Foreign Office, the representation of the State of Schleswig-Holstein, the Goethe-Institute, esp. the one in Helsinki for its initial support, the Nordic Council of Ministers with its Nordic Culture Fund and Culture Point, last not least the Finnish Literature Information Centre.

So far the virtual Baltic Sea Library is managing without support by private donations, industrial sponsors and the abundant portfolio of the European Union. I am nourishing the idea since 1999, but I would not have developed the idea without the framework of the Baltic Writers' Council, the representation of the writers' and translators' associations of the Baltic region.

I have been working in this umbrella organisation since 1997, and one of the main issues that has been on my mind a lot is: what do we really have in common when it comes to literature? How can we make this commonness visible, shape a platform for a common culture?

The clue is of course translation – I myself have worked as a translator, mediator since the mid-70's -, because it is both conveying identity (by expressing the same as in the original) and difference (by expressing it in its own way, by re-writing the original).

In political terms this would mean the tension between unity and diversity – and we do have the political European union which excludes Russia and we have the Council of Baltic Sea States including it, and on the other hand we have the UNESCO declaration of cultural diversity with the task to uphold our different languages and their specific skills.

I want to remind you of the Balticness project of the European Council in the year 2003, where I produced a sketch of the most important literary places around the Baltic Sea.

And in 2002 in Visby a conference on the Baltic Sea in Literature and Art was held, and many of the lectures have now been published on our portal.

Still it feels rather new to choose the Baltic as a common focus: bringing together cultures that have been torn apart during half a century: North and South, East and West. Before this split in the beginning of the century it was here where modernist painting started in plein air, women's painting started in Ahrenshoop on the peninsula of Darß, Kirchner painted on the island of Fehmarn, Agueli on Gotland, Pechstein in Nidden on the Curonian Spit.

As I once learnt, the Baltic region has only 1 % of the world population, but holds 8 % of the world sea transport, I hope in the future it will hold as much of the spiritual traffic.

A literary platform can be seen as a sustainable tool, combining forces of the writers and translators, editors and academics, public and national libraries and culture institutions of the entire region.

If we look at digitisation and the virtual space that it shapes – what kind of new reality is it? Still it is a rather new tool, as digitisation has shown to be rather slow and not really functioning multilingually.

Today's fragmented reading in all its mosaic pieces may be put together to form a new context. I thought of a common library in the sense of a private library with different book shelves, small portions of book treasures. In the sense the great Edith Södergran from S:t Petersburg wrote: "If I had a great garden / I would invite all my brothers and sisters to it. / Each and every one would take with him a great treasure." (The Great Garden. Transl. by David Mc Duff)

In a quest for identity, a new identity, we could think, as Julia Kristeva, of readers as kaleidoscopic individuals with the skill of many languages, of being able to read parallel interweaving traditions in their translations. So the Baltic Sea Library has a holistic approach, presenting many voices. The patchwork is seen as a process developing more and more into a common suprastructure – but not forgetting the details, like links to the literary societies, dedicated to one specific author's work.

I hope we can say the same at the end of this meeting as well, that we discovered something new through all these days, in the sense the great Swedish poet Gunnar Ekelöf quoted a French saying: "Il me semble que je fais toujours des progrès". Since we, according to the demands of the Nordic Council of Ministers are a pilot project under the module of "sharing of knowledge and capacity development", let us together develop kaleidoscopic eyes for seeing our surroundings in a new way.



Photo: C. Melldahl

Read more about the Conference :

http://www.balticsealibrary.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=77&Itemid=88

Ideas for the Bibliotheca Baltica Symposium 2012. Invitation to participate in its planning

The National Library of Estonia has most hospitably offered to host the Symposium 2012. A theme has been discussed within the Board and with colleagues at Södertörn University Library, Sweden. The Library has for many years had research librarians specializing in the Baltic Sea Region and Eastern Europe.

“Librarians and researchers”. The subject is researcher support. The idea is that there should be a colloquium where experiences can be exchanged, between libraries and librarians, but primarily between researchers and library staff and, in addition to that, discussions amongst researchers themselves. We hope, of course, that this exchange will also lead to new ideas as to how to work better in the future.

Points for discussion:

1. Is there specific researcher support
2. What form does this support take (contact librarians, dedicated services etc)
3. To what extent, in terms of staffing and cost
4. Librarians' views regarding how well the system works, researchers' views regarding how well the system works.

There are other universities in Sweden which could contribute. It is unnecessary for all of the presentations to concentrate on issues relevant to the Baltic Sea Region, but perhaps establish common links where possible.

The Board now asks all member libraries to discuss whether they can and will contribute with experiences. Please contact gunnar.sahlin@kb.se before August 31, 2011!

Ideas for a Bibliotheca Baltica Think Tank (BBTT)

A symposium to start thinking about a Bibliotheca Baltica Think Tank with the aim to generate interdisciplinary thinking and acting synergy is planned to take place in Vilnius in the beginning of September 2011. More information and exact date will be announced on the Bibliotheca Baltica website.

News from member libraries

Through a letter the Board asked all members of Bibliotheca Baltica for contributions to the Newsletter and we are happy to publish the following reports.

We would very much like to receive more reports for the Newsletter that will be published in late autumn. Please contact catharina.melldahl@kb.se before August 31 about participation. Texts should be sent before October 15, 2011.



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Polska Akademia Nauk Biblioteka Gdańska - the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS) Gdańsk Library *Urszula Szybowska*

Polska Akademia Nauk Biblioteka Gdańska - the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS) Gdańsk Library - is a truly unique place in a city of a long and fascinating history. Today Gdańsk is an important Polish cultural seat with a great number of beautiful monuments, museums, theatres, gardens, a concert hall, opera house, universities, colleges and obviously wonderful libraries.

The PAS Gdańsk Library (<http://bgpan.gda.pl/>) is one of the best-stocked historical libraries in Poland. It was founded in 1596 as the Library of the City Council (Bibliotheca Senatus Gedanensis) on the basis of a unique book collection donated to the City by an Italian bibliophile and humanist, Giovanni Bernardino Bonifacio marquis of Oria (1517-1547). Later centuries brought further expansion. The Library's collections have been expanded by purchases, donations, and bequests left by the city's citizens. The holdings of the PAN Gdańsk Library comprise today special collection materials and contemporary materials. The special collection items comprise texts from the 10th-20th manuscripts, incunabulas, early printed books, cartographic collections, graphics, bookplates, photographs, numismatic items, paintings and others. The cultural value of the special collection materials is inestimable.

In Poland 2011 is the year of Jan Heweliusz, or Johannes Hevelius (1611-1687). It is a good opportunity to remember and celebrate the astronomer's work. The PAS Gdańsk Library is the only library in the world where all the works by Hevelius has been gathered. *Johannis Hevelii Selenographia Sive, Lunæ Descriptio [...]* and other works by the renowned Gdańsk astronomer are accessible in the Pomorska Biblioteka Cyfrowa (Pomeranian Digital Library: <http://pbc.gda.pl/dlibra>). Enjoy your astronomy adventure!



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The National Library of Lithuania

Virtual Electronic Heritage System: Digital Content and Electronic Services for Lithuania and Europe *Dr. Regina Varnienė-Janssen*

The article introduces the national project „Development of the Virtual Electronic Heritage System“, which is a follow-up of the 2005-2008 project.

Introduction

The recent strategic document of the European Commission “Europe 2020: A European Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth” and one of its flagship initiatives “A Digital Agenda for Europe” identifying 7 priority action areas – development of a single digital market, enhanced interoperability, internet trust and security, faster broadband, more sustainable investments in research and development, enhancing digital literacy, skills and inclusion, and increasing ICT benefits to society – give clear evidence that the provisions of “The Strategy for Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access” adopted by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 2009 have retained their currency up to the present day. “The Strategy for the Development of the Lithuanian Information Society in 2010-2015” defining one of its principle objectives as “fostering the Lithuanian language and culture by using information technologies” also confirms that creation of the digital content of the national cultural heritage and providing access to it remains one of the priority areas for the information society. This largely coincides with the

measure “Lithuanian culture in the information society” of the 3rd priority of Lithuania’s “Action Programme for Economic Growth in 2007-2013”.

The continuity of the information society policy against the European and national context makes a sustainable case for the paradigm of interaction between memory institutions involved in creation of the national digital content, which has considerably influenced the Lithuanian cultural policy. The most significant cultural policy document of recent years “The Strategy for Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access” and its Implementation Framework provide for a grant of EUR 17 391 304 for the realization of seven projects, all of which are under implementation.

One of the most important projects is “Development of the Virtual Electronic Heritage System” which has been recently granted a national status by the Ministry of Culture. It was launched by Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania together with 9 partners on 3 February 2010. Here is a brief overview of the project’s background.

1. Methodology: a common approach to the cultural heritage

Preservation of cultural heritage objects and information about them is at the core of the mission of memory institutions: archives, libraries and museums. Blurring of sectoral boundaries between them could often be observed when taking into consideration memory institutions which, due to historical circumstances, sheltered cultural heritage assets that differed from the type of objects usually preserved at them. Though this “object type” factor still plays an important role in framing the organizational structure for memory institutions, it could hardly be argued, however, that a work of art, the authorial manuscript of this work or a review of this same work – all of them share the same cultural and historical context, and provide evidence of comparable cultural features. With the purpose to achieve consistency between the cultural heritage content and presentation of information about this content, IFLA, CIDOC, ISO and other communities have started developing common conceptualization of information about the cultural heritage preserved by archives, libraries and museums. In this context, the results achieved by the International Working Group on FRBR/CIDOC CRM Harmonization are very encouraging with respect to the implementation of an integrated common ontology for the information accumulated by both libraries and museums. This, in its turn, will ensure integrity of the cultural heritage content and convenient access under the Semantic Web environment.

We could finally admit, with some satisfaction, that the initiative started by the Centre of Bibliography and Book Science at Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, which originated in a request for financial support from the European Structural Funds, has developed into a common methodological approach to cultural heritage digitization and access with respect to modeling, standards, recommendations and practices. The methodology has been:

– defined in the following strategic documents: “A Concept for Lithuanian Cultural Heritage Digitization”; “The Strategy for Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access” and “The Implementation Framework for the Strategy for Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access 2009-2013”;

– implemented within the Virtual Electronic Heritage System (*Virtuali elektroninio paveldo sistema* – VEPS) and the portal of the cultural heritage www.epaveldas.lt;

2. Objectives

2.1. New paradigm in the legislation on the cultural heritage: concept, strategy and implementation framework

A step of major significance for the Lithuanian cultural policy, which lay the groundwork for the interaction of memory institutions, was “A Concept for Lithuanian Cultural Heritage Digitization”.¹

The Concept defines the objective, goals and principles of cultural heritage digitization, also common selection criteria for objects to be digitized, setting the foundation for consistent and purposeful activities by memory institutions in securing and maintaining currency of the nation’s cultural heritage as well as enhancing access to it. On the basis of the Concept, coordination and monitoring of the support for cultural heritage digitization on a national level is carried out by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania together with the Ministry of Education and Science, Information Society Development Committee under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Office of the Chief Archivist of Lithuania under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. They also present suggestions for efficient realization of this support to the Council on Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage.

The Concept, however, does not define organization of digitization activities and funding of these activities. This imperfection prompted the author of this report to initiate further updating of the regulatory framework. The initiative group summoned by the author of this article developed a draft project for a digitization strategy and presented it to the Ministry of Culture. After a general debate by the team from the Ministry of Culture and the Council on Digitization as well as a public debate, “The Strategy for Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access” and its “Implementation Framework 2009-2013”² were approved and adopted by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on 20 May 2009. These strategic documents will help to expand the existing infrastructure for the purpose to create a single digital space of the cultural heritage information, extend the lifetime of cultural heritage objects, provide current and authoritative information about the Lithuanian cultural heritage in the virtual environment and facilitate preservation and promotion of Lithuanian culture in a globalized world.

To give a concise description of the purpose of the Strategy, the main emphasis should be on provisions that define coordination of digitization activities through digitization centres. Their role is to be taken by institutions having the most prolific experience in digitization and providing access to the digitized material: Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, the Lithuanian Art Museum and the Office of the Chief Archivist of Lithuania. The establishment of such competence centres within national memory institutions facilitated selection of cultural objects to be digitized and compiling lists of such objects. The centres’ remit includes provision of manifold methodological assistance and training services for the professional community as well as invariable concern about financial support, which could be obtained in line with the guidelines provided in the above-mentioned strategic documents.

The vision of the Strategy manifests itself as a single digital information space of the Lithuanian cultural heritage, which extends the lifetime of cultural heritage objects; provides current, exhaustive and authoritative information about the Lithuanian cultural heritage to the European and worldwide public; ensures permanent and reliable use of cultural heritage resources for research, educational and cultural purposes. The Strategy aims at promoting digitization activities among memory institutions, ensuring long-term preservation of the Lithuanian cultural heritage, its integration into the global digital space and worldwide access to it.

The Strategy aspires to:

- create a seamless system of cultural heritage digitization and guarantee its reliable functionality;
- develop and expand the virtual system of the digital cultural heritage combining search, preservation and access features;
- standardize cultural heritage digitization, preservation and access workflows;
- digitize cultural heritage objects and deliver their content into the common Web portal of the cultural heritage;
- encourage initiatives on cultural heritage access.

It must also be taken into consideration that the adopted Implementation Framework for 2009-2013 provided a foundation for seeking sustainable funding options both from the state budget and the EU Structural Funds. Priority should be given to projects that provide possibilities for participation in multi-partner activities of creating a single digital information space of the Lithuanian cultural heritage and integration of its objects into the digital system of the cultural heritage and the common Web portal.

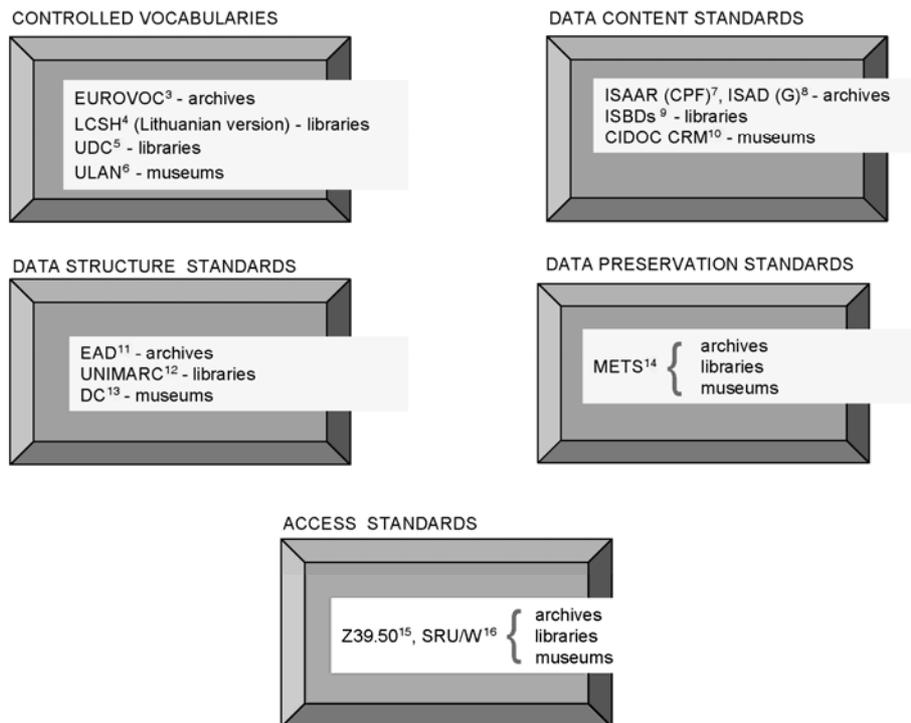
2.2. Shared standards within the Virtual Electronic Heritage System

Expansion of digitization activities has stimulated development of an integrated shared ontology for the information about the collections held by memory institutions. It was only a short time ago that shared standards started to be applied for most of the digital repositories and access systems set up by memory institutions. Prior to that, the absence of concern for application of shared standards prevented consistency in the access to the digital content and its retrieval. Therefore the above-mentioned strategic documents on cultural heritage digitization give special prominence to the necessity for a common ontology, and a goal has been set to have shared digitization standards adopted in order to coordinate projects and initiatives undertaken by memory institutions, ensure compatibility of cultural heritage repositories on a national level and their integration into the European digital space.

Currently the National Library together with the project partners, the Office of the Chief Archivist of Lithuania and the Lithuanian Art Museum, are the only institutions adhering to shared standards for metadata and digital object archiving, preservation and access.

Application of shared standards is essential, because they call for integrity of the digital content and more qualitative information resources, where objects can be browsable, searchable and identifiable within a hierarchy system.

To achieve interoperability with national memory institutions, the European Digital Library (EDL) (www.theeuropeanlibrary.org) and Europeana (www.europeana.eu/portal), the following standards have been applied within VEPS:



Shared standards within VEPS

2.3. Access solutions

For access to VEPS, the portal www.epaveldas.lt, which employs SRU/W, Z39.50 and OAI.(since 2011) has been created. Since VEPS has been designed for provision of visual information, digital objects within this system also contain descriptive metadata. The user interface permits switching to extensive records within LIBIS (library system), LAFSIS (archives system) and IRIS (museum system). For this purpose, a reciprocal linking system has been introduced, i.e. there is a link between each object and its relevant description in the source system, and vice versa. Permanent HTTP links between objects within VEPS are retained: even with changes occurring within the Virtual System, the links will remain intact. The structure of the link is the following:

<http://www.epaveldas.lt/vbspi/biDetails.do?libisId=C1R0000046342>. Here <http://www.epaveldas.lt/vbspi/biDetails.do> is the permanent part, and [libisId=C1R0000046342](http://www.epaveldas.lt/vbspi/biDetails.do?libisId=C1R0000046342) is the variable part, which corresponds to the value of field 001 of the UNIMARC record.



Fig.1. DC metadata and digital objects

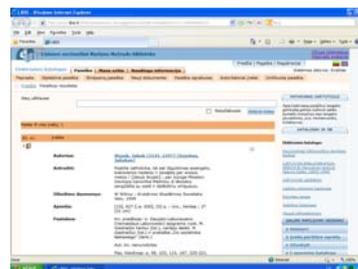


Fig. 2. Extensive record within LIBIS



Fig. 3. Digital image of *Postilla* by Mikalojus Daukša

3. Development of VEPS

3.1. Objectives

On 3 February 2010, the following objectives were defined:

- expanding the network for creation of the cultural heritage content by establishing new digitization centres and units;
- development and improvement of VEPS;
- ensuring digitization of cultural heritage objects and access on the basis of interaction of memory institutions defined within strategic documents, received financial grant and the methodology for this interaction created within the project of 2005-2008 and based on shared standards, a common virtual electronic heritage system and Web portal.

The project received the financial grant of EUR 3 700 000.

3.2. Content

During the first phase of project, we succeeded to digitize only a small portion of the national published heritage. Therefore participation in the project of the main Lithuanian research libraries, i.e. Vilnius University Library and Wroblewski Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, is of major significance. Their contribution will enable fixing the gaps on the portal www.epaveldas.lt, which reflect the absence of some documents within the collections of the National Library: for example, some most valuable heritage content from the 16th-19th centuries will find its place on the Web portal. The portal will also be enriched by digital copies of Lithuanian, Polish and Yiddish newspapers issued in Lithuania, and newspapers in the Lithuanian language published outside Lithuania during 1918-1940. The scope of the digital content will expand by adding sound materials – the National Library is ready to start digitization of old shellac records, thus reviving famous Lithuanian performers of the past.

VEPS will be significantly enriched with Lituanistic content, as agreements with 82 Lithuanian publishers from abroad have been signed regarding digitization of 82 publications and their presentation on the portal www.epaveldas.lt. During the new project, 2 million pages, or 78 585 cultural heritage works from the collections of archives, libraries and museums, will be digitized. In addition to the already mentioned shellac records and books, we will pursue digitization of church birth record books and works of fine and applied arts, which will be delivered to the VEPS and the portal www.epaveldas.lt. It will enable anyone wishing to get acquainted with the national cultural heritage objects to get prompt and easy access to them irrespective of one's location.

The project has achieved the following results:

- the infrastructure of digitization centres has been expanded;
- new software has been created;

- digital cultural heritage content has been enriched by 78 000 objects (2 295 506 pages).

Electronic services are being further developed: the portal www.epaveldas.lt is being improved and expanded by increasing the extent and variety of cultural heritage objects delivered to it. Along the way, the system is being optimized for supporting high levels of content search and retrieval based on a common cultural heritage ontology (CIDOC CRM) and the user-oriented architecture, i.e. SOA tools.

The software applications used will employ the CIDOC CRM-based BAVIC (Common Thesaurus of Personal Names, Geographical Names and Historical Chronology) model, which pursues the following goals:

- establishment of a universal method for presentation of historical, chronological and biographical data in the digital environment;
- consolidation of the general scheme for historical chronology, historical geography and historical biography;
- setting standards for presentation of space, biographical and chronological data in the digital environment;
- setting the management of the digital cultural heritage information;
- enabling geographical, historical and personal names related classification of cultural heritage objects;
- creation of a model for integration of all historical, biographical and geographical data within a single system;
- introducing a common and integral digital form for diverse heritage object data;
- analysis of cultural heritage objects and their dating;
- framing of cultural evolution schemes.

Conclusions

1. A common methodological approach to digitization of the cultural heritage and access grounded on “A Concept for Lithuanian Cultural Heritage Digitization” (2005) and “The Strategy for Digitization of the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage, Digital Content Preservation and Access” (2009) has developed in Lithuania.
2. The established Virtual Electronic Heritage System (VEPS), being based on shared standards, ensures integrity of the digital content and convenient access to it.
3. Further development of the Virtual Electronic Heritage System will involve enrichment of the digital content by adding diverse cultural heritage objects and improving access to this content with the help of a common cultural heritage ontology (CIDOC CRM) and the user-oriented architecture (SOA tools).

¹ Lietuvos kultūros paveldo skaitmeninimo koncepcija : patvirtinta Lietuvos Respublikos Vyriausybės 2005 m. rugpjūčio 25 d. nutarimu Nr.933 // Valstybės žinios. 2005, rugpj. 30 (Nr.105), p. 5–6.

² Lietuvos kultūros paveldo skaitmeninimo, skaitmeninio turinio saugojimo ir prieigos strategija : Lietuvos Respublikos Vyriausybės nutarimo projektas [retrieved 24 April 2009], http://www.lrkmlt/go.php/lit/PROJEKTAS_DEL_LIETUVOS_KULTUROS_PAVELDO_/158/0/159

³ EUROVOC [retrieved 24 April 2009], <http://www3lt/pls/ev/ev.main>

⁴ Lietuvos nacionalinės Martyno Mažvydo bibliotekos rubrikynas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka , 1994.

⁵ Universal Decimal Classification (UDC). Complete ed. London : BSI, 2005. Vol 1-2.

⁶ ULAN : union list of artist names. Getty Center, Los Angeles, 2000 [retrieved 24 April 2009], http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/ulan/

⁷ ISAR(CPF) : international standard archival authority record for corporate bodies, persons, and families [retrieved 24 April 2009], <http://www.ica.org/en/node/30004>

⁸ ISAD(G) : general international standard archival description. 2nd ed. ICA, Ottawa, 2000 [retrieved 24 April 2009], http://www.ica.org/sites/default/files/isad_g_2e.pdf

⁹ ISBD(A) : senųjų (antikvarinių) monografinių leidinių tarptautinis standartinis bibliografinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka, 1999.

ISBD(CM) : kartografinės medžiagos tarptautinis standartinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka. Bibliografijos ir knygotyros centras, 1999.

ISBD(CR) : serialinių leidinių ir kitų tęsiamųjų išteklių tarptautinis standartinis bibliografinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka, 2007.

ISBD(G) : bendras standartinis bibliografinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka. Bibliografijos ir knygotyros centras, 1995.

ISBD(M) : monografinių leidinių tarptautinis standartinis bibliografinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka. Bibliografijos ir knygotyros centras, 1997.

ISBD(NBM) : neknyginės medžiagos tarptautinis standartinis bibliografinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka, 2002.

ISBD(PM) : natų leidinių tarptautinis standartinis bibliografinis aprašas. Vilnius : Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno Mažvydo biblioteka . Bibliografijos ir knygotyros centras, 1998.

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National Library of Finland

Digital Library – Finland's huge project to build the National Digital Library ***Project Manager Ari Rouvari***

The Finnish National Digital Library (NDL) project is a national project which improves online accessibility and usability of digital cultural heritage resources held by libraries, museums and archives in Finland by combining the services and collections of these organisations to a versatile user interface called the Public Interface.

The Public Interface is an easy-to-use efficient one-stop shop for heterogeneous digital resources. The architecture is based on the idea of separating the user interface from back-end systems. The operational principle is to keep cataloguing of data and digital objects in the back-end systems while metadata is harvested and indexed into the Public Interface for easy and fast information retrieval.

Understanding the end user needs has played a major role during the design process. Since the current portals are usually lacking in usability the aim of the Public Interface is to enhance accessibility of digital resources through high usability.

Pilot phase

The National Library signed Primo software license agreement with Ex Libris Group August 2010. The service is being piloted by eight representative organisations: The National Library, The National Board of Antiquities, The National Archives, Lusto Finnish Forest Museum, Tuusula Art Museum, Jyväskylä University Library, Turku City Library and Helsinki City Library.

The aim of the pilot phase on the one hand is testing our service concept – does it make any sense to provide the real one-stop-shop for all museums, archives and libraries and their printed and digital resources and can we really service our customers needs and varied expectations. And on the other hand to check does Ex Libris fulfill our functional and technical requirements.

It is not yet been solved how can we with the one installation of Primo provide a national view for all users, institutional views for authenticated local users and sector specific views for example for museum sectors. In the Jyväskylä university library we have not succeeded to use same time shibboleth middleware authentication system for licensed eresources and to authenticate into the library OPAC to renew loans and make requests.

Primo discovery and delivery tool is not yet adequate for working in consortial environments and specially sharing resources between the members of the consortium is complicated. Thus we have not yet achieved our expectations - all resources on cultural

heritage, research and teaching will be supplied to end-users as a single service. Anyway we believe that Turku City library should be in production by the end of 2011

Piloting the public interface at the National library with national bibliography and digital collections

Librarian Leena Jansson

Starting point

The information resources the National Library makes available to users are varied. They are digitised or born-digital objects or reference data on physical objects or other reference data stored in databases.

A significant number of the National Library's customers are academic researchers, university teachers and universities' post-graduate students; of the academic disciplines, many represent the humanities and political science fields. The increased amount of born-digital and digitized objects has led to the situation that there are multiple search interfaces. Nowadays, when searching for information, a researcher has to use several services; to be able to select the right service, he or she must know which organization is producing the information. Libraries have noticed that the users are not satisfied with the current systems. Unhappily many of the library systems are also old-fashioned systems. The situation is a big challenge for usability: several content providers, diverse material and heterogenous metadata. Conclusion libraries had made: they need a single point to access all collections.

What is piloted

The front-end (public interface) service is based on centralised indexing. The principle is to keep data and documents in back-end. The system shall also provide an integrated interface to the back end systems' services. The interface uses the metadata from back end systems. Metadata is harvested in interface.

In piloting organisations have harvested and normalized the data from back end systems. Standard formats Marc, Dublin Core have in public interface their built-in template mappings. Templates can be customised during the implementation process. This customisation has been a big effort of organisations and the work has required a high-level metadata specialists.

In the pilot phase pilot organisations will specify what information will be used in searches, and what will be shown in search results. The piloting will continue with the testing of the searches' functionality, the libraries' self-service functions (reservations, renewals), and the customization of the public interface. The ways in which the public interface can be integrated in the Library's website, researchers' electronic desktops, social networking services, and other environments is also being tested in the pilot project. Then National Library is testing the possibilities to tailor the interface to meet the user's needs. One goal of the National Library will be to determine if it will consequently facilitate the accessibility of digitized materials, because in the National Library's digitization processes, digitized materials will also be structured to a fairly high degree, for example to the article level of magazines.

National Library of Norway

Ingjerd Skrede

***Director, Dept. Information, exhibitions
and jubilees***



Photo: Ketil Born, Nasjonalbiblioteket

Newspaper service in all libraries

The National Library of Norway is launching a service offering digital access to a variety of Norwegian newspapers. The service will replace the current use of microfilm, and as well as being able to read digital versions of the newspapers, users will be able to search in the text.

Agreements have been entered into with several Norwegian newspapers, and these permit the National Library of Norway to make digital versions of the newspapers available in Norwegian libraries.

We are now in a phase where read-only versions of our digital newspaper collection are being created, and this work can be quite time consuming. Between 200 and 300 new newspaper sheets are received every day, so it is difficult to estimate exactly what the service covers at any given time.

Digitising the newspapers' historical editions is an expensive and lengthy process. Thus, it will take some time before the service is complete in relation to the existing Norwegian newspaper archives. A preliminary estimate is that it will take approximately 25–30 years to digitise the entire newspaper archives.

To date, the National Library of Norway has approximately 250 000 digital newspaper sheets in its collection. This represents around 4 500 000 pages, and makes up roughly 6% of the total newspaper collection.

The agreement we have with the newspapers restricts use of the service to the libraries' premises.

New mandate for The National Library of Norway.

The mandate for the National Library of Norway was expanded in July 2010, when the Norwegian Ministry of Culture transferred the library functions of the former *ABM-utvikling* to The National Library of Norway. *ABM-utvikling* (the Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority) was a government body that undertook active, strategic development work to strengthen archives, libraries and museums as active and relevant social institutions.

The National Library of Norway was given responsibility for all government library-related functions in Norway and, consequently, was charged with developing a National Library Policy.

In order to adapt operations to this expanded mandate, a revision of the National Library of Norway's strategy and organisation was undertaken in the autumn of 2010. The National Library of Norway has been commissioned to have a special responsibility for aiding, developing and reinforcing the libraries of Norway, based on The National Library of Norway's own services and experience, firmly anchored in each individual library's local identity and relationship with the surrounding community. In order to meet this goal, the National Library of Norway will:

Serve as central infrastructure for all Norwegian libraries, e.g. by determining standards within bibliographic production, digitalisation and digital storage.

Prepare the way for the use of digital content and development in new digital services. Wherever property rights make the necessary provisions, the National Library of Norway wants other libraries to recycle or instigate their own digital dissemination methods based on the National Library of Norway's digital collection. One concrete example is the National Library of Norway's newspaper collection. The National Library of Norway has entered into agreements with several of the country's leading newspapers concerning distribution and digitalisation of this historical material. These agreements allow the material to be put at the disposal of users in libraries throughout the country via a digital service developed by the National Library of Norway.

Announce and dispense project funds within prioritised areas for stimulating the development of enhanced library services/facilities.

Maintain a dialogue with libraries and library owners.

Administer the Library Act.

National Library of Russia, S:t Petersburg,

refers to <http://www.nlr.ru/eng/md/> for information about what is going on.



National Library of Sweden



Photo: Jens Gustafsson

Swedish News in Swedish and Meänkieli

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The National Libraries in Sweden and Finland have since 2010 joined forces to initiate news broadcasts in Meänkieli and Finnish. Through this new project the two institutions aspire to bring into public view and draw the attention of the research community to a historically important minority in Northern Sweden. Primary focus will be on digitizing Finnish newspapers in Swedish Tornedalen and those Finnish newspapers which were printed in Sweden to be expressly smuggled to Finland during the years of oppression. This material will be of value for scholars in a number of fields, genealogists and broad segments of general public.

Today, the availability of these newspapers is very limited. In Finland, just a fraction of them is available on microfilm. In Sweden, a selection of titles has been microfilmed, but are available only at the remote Bålsta depot of the Nation Library of Sweden, and are of inadequate quality for critical work and for multiplication purposes.

By digitizing we shall be extending the preservation period of this material and promoting the exchange of knowledge and experience. The present efforts will reinforce those inroads made by the trailbreaking project TIDEN, the Historical Newspaper Library.

Background

The purpose of this project is to draw attention to ethnic press in the Scandinavian Peninsula and to its contribution to identity and language retention. The materials will be OCR (Optical Character Recognition) scanned, thus making it possible to search the text.

Many of the newspapers included were of seminal importance at the time when Finnish territories constituted a Grand Duchy in Imperial Russia, as well as later when the newly founded nation was immersed in ravenous civil war. Published in Sweden, they were smuggled into Finland.

Meänkieli ("our language") is a Finnish-Ugrian language, closely related to Finnish, spoken in Tornedalen. In Sweden it is regarded as a language in its own right and spoken in Pajala, Haparanda, Övertorneå, Kiruna and Gällivare. Since the 1950s, it has spread by resettlement to Luleå, Umeå and Stockholm

In the Finnish part of Tornedalen, Meänkieli is regarded as a Finnish dialect, but in recent years its status has risen

The language has approximately 25000-40000 speakers in Norrbotten and is an official minority language in Sweden.

The newspapers

If perchance you were looking for the following Finnish newspapers in Swedish or Finnish bibliographies, you would, surprisingly enough, not find a single one of the titles included in this list:

Rajalta (1876). Published in Haparanda, Sweden for three months, as a public service.

Haaparannanlehti 1882 --1923. In 1883, the Haaparannanlehti, a bi-lingual newspaper appeared. It continued in the same form until 1923, when it was succeeded by the Haparandabladet (in Swedish only). Other newspapers in Haparanda were **Pohjolan Sanomia** (1886-1888), **Pohjola** (1896-1898) and **Haaparannan Sanomat** (1917).

As Grand Duchy 1809-1917, Finland was, at times, under hard censorship and surveillance and a number of newspapers could not be published or printed in Finland. One such, **Fria Ord** with its Finnish edition **Vapaista Lehtisiä**, was printed in Stockholm between 1896-1905 and smuggled into Finland.

The Finnish Civil War, January-May 1918, interrupted the publication of leftwing newspapers in Finland. As a result, the Finnish Society in Stockholm published **Viesti** for over two years, starting with April 20, 1918. Like other illegal newspapers, it was smuggled into Finland. Its editorial staff was comprised of many refugees who had managed to escape from Finnish prison camps and included many prominent members of the red/socialist revolutionary government.

At the same time, the leftwing **Revontulet** was published in Luleå from 1919. It was also called the Finnish edition of the Swedish Norrskensflamman. At first it was published regularly, but ever more intermittently as Finns with revolutionary backgrounds and aspirations left for Soviet Russia. Its last issue appeared in 1927.

The editorial board of Revontulet was almost the same as that of the Viesti. The newspaper had subscribers also in Norway, Finland, Denmark, Russia and the United States.

After the Second World War, the Finnish labour migration to Sweden started. This community published the **Tukholman Sanomat** from 1951 to 1958.

The number of migrants grew significantly with the implementation of the Nordic Passport Union in 1954. The Nordic countries now formed a common labour market. The publication of Finnish newspapers in Sweden was no longer incidental, as **Tukholman uutiset** (1952-1958) and **Suomalaisten Uutislehti** (1958-1975) bear witness to. Today only one Finnish newspaper is still being published in Sweden, **Ruotsin Suomalainen**, which first appeared in 1964. It is part of the Swedish Union Catalogue since 1979.

Preservation

We all have at some time or another left a newspaper on the windowsill, in full sunshine, and we have observed how rapidly it yellows. Due to chemical changes in the paper, it becomes brittle very quickly and is not able to withstand frequent use.

Methods to preserve such paper have been developed, by neutralizing its inherent acids. One has also tried to strengthen the paper by laminating it with paper fibre or synthetic polymers. But no one method has been universally effective.

The best preservation method is not exposing this type of paper to wear. This can best be accomplished by microfilming or digitizing.

The Finnish newspapers described here have been preserved in very few, if not one, copy and can no longer be exposed to use. Their significance needs no elaboration.

That which has been microfilmed previously no longer can be OCR-read. The nitrate films themselves are disintegrating.

Digitizing

The search for new platforms and formats is in no way new. That was true in the microfilm age. That is even truer in the digital.

Digitization opens new dimensions. It becomes possible to convert text into OCR-readable files which allows the user to search and engage the material in a new way. But as always, marginal publications obtain marginal interest and marginal allocations, and are most vulnerable in times of economic crisis.

To revive cooperation

This is not the first time the National Libraries of Sweden and Finland are joining forces to digitize newspapers. The project TIDEN, 1998-2001, (<http://web.archive.org/web/20071029214724/http://tiden.kb.se/>), was underwritten by Nordinfo. The aim of that project was to explore sustainable and economically feasible ways for making older collections of libraries accessible in digital format.

When this successful project came to a conclusion, each library continued on its own. Finland built on the experience and results to create a digitizing and microfilming centre in S:t Michel (<http://digi.nationalbiblioteket.fi>). In Sweden, due to many reasons, this process was not as straightforward and quick. Today, however, this new project has the potential to create a new environment with enhanced creativity and cooperation.