

Liechtenstein.

Liechtenstein National Library.

Annual report 2000 to the Conference of European National Libraries (CENL).

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THE LIECHTENSTEIN NATIONAL LIBRARY IN SHORT (AT THE END OF 1999)

Budget	CHF 1,669,756.--
Collections Total	215,000 units
New Acquisitions in 2000	4,487 units
Staff	9.1 full time permanent positions
Loan (statistics) in 2000	92,815 units

1. Management of the library

No special comments.

2. Handling of electronic publications and formats, including new legislation

No special comments.

3. Funding

The library's earnings, i.e. interests, fees and donations, increased compared to the previous year. With a total amount of CHF 80,000, they accounted for 5% of total expenditure.

4. Legislation

Based on the new copyright adopted by Parliament in 1999, the Government granted the licences for the exploitation of the various rights on 13 June 2000. Rights of particular meaning for libraries include the copyright concerning literary works and audiovisual media. Libraries as non-commercial institutions which present and preserve these works in the service of cultural promotion, general education and science take an elementary interest in preventing free access to publications from being disproportionately limited by royalties regulations. Up until now, no regulations have been determined.

5. Buildings

After the building projects completed in the previous year, i.e. reconstruction and extension of the library rooms in the main building, installation of a large roller shelf facility in the Pflugstrasse external deposit, the year 2000 was characterised by the consolidation and optimisation of the status quo. In this phase, constructional defects were corrected and guarantee services rendered.

6. Staffing matters

The fixed number of staff of the National Library in accordance with the national employment plan did not change in the year under review.

7. Information technology and networks

The integration of the bibliographical data of the previous local borrowing system and the SIBIL library system as well as the subsequent change to the new ALEPH system required substantial catalogue work. Several titles had to be added and copy details to be adapted, double entries had to be summarised and reduced to one. Staff will have to continue to deal with such corrections and adaptations for the new electronic catalogue for some time. There also remain a number of changes to be made to the magazine file to ensure an effective introduction of the ALEPH module for the administration of periodicals.

After the new ALEPH library borrowing system had been introduced on 1 December 1999, we could start working on the “cataloguing” module at the beginning of 2000. As of April, the acquisition module was also productively used.

The time-consuming production start with ALEPH was followed by a consolidation phase. In the different modules, fine adjustments had to be carried out and several minor mistakes in the procedures and data structures had to be documented and eliminated.

The new library system also provided the basis for the creation of a Liechtenstein library association. A number of libraries within the national administration as well as school and municipal libraries expressed their interest in co-operating with each other. Discussions concerning their connection were already held. Together with the School Authority and the newly created Office for School Information Technology, the access of all schools to the National Library’s catalogue was ensured.

With the installation of IT workplaces for the use of the Internet and multimedia services, the National Library added a new dimension to literary and information search for its customers. This required new technical, legal and organisational regulations. The new provisions with regard to the use of IT workplaces met these requirements.

In connection with the extension of the Liechtenstein National Library 1998/99, the patent library was modernised as well based on a co-operation programme agreed upon by the European Patent Office and the Principality of Liechtenstein. The improvement of the CD-ROM equipment and the installation of a small esp@cenet level 1 server were part of this programme.

With the installation of this server (<http://li.espacenet.com/>), the homepage of the patent library was reviewed and extended: <http://www.espacenet.li/> and <http://www.lbfl.li/patent>. It comprises any relevant information about the protection of industrial property in Liechtenstein as well as about patent research and questions of intellectual property.

8. The digital library

No special comments.

9. Legal deposit of materials

The planned amendment with regard to the extension of the statutory copy right of non-books and electronic publications could not be implemented in the year under review.

10. Acquisitions

Thanks to the National Library's increased earnings, a number of antiquarian offers could be accepted; the collection of bibliophile works and old graphics was thus substantially extended.

11. Preservation and conservation

In order to preserve the National Library's different cultural assets in accordance with state-of-the-art technology, we - after having discussed the issue with experts - ordered new containers made of non-ageing material. These will now be used to replace the old, less suitable boxes, folders and envelopes step by step.

In order to preserve at least one copy of all Liechtenstein publications, it will be necessary to have the publications as of 1850 threatened by deterioration treated in a mass deacidification facility. The facility opened in Switzerland in the year under review would be suitable. Every copy shall additionally be filmed. Thus, a second copy will be available in the case that the original copy is destroyed due to catastrophes.

12. Services to readers

No special comments.

13. Cultural events, exhibitions and publishing

No special comments.

14. Library co-operation

In order to improve contacts and solve common tasks, the National Library organised a meeting of the 'School and Municipal Libraries' forum. Discussions were held with the 'Compulsory School and Kindergarten' department of the School Office to find possibilities of promoting the reading competence of children and adolescents at school and in their spare-time.

15. Major celebrations (anniversaries and events)

No special comments.

16. Other notable information

No special comments.

17. Organisation chart

No special comments.