



FOUNDATION
NATIONAL ACADEMIC LIBRARY
AND INFORMATION SYSTEM

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Approved by:

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ANNUAL REPORT
(1 January – 31 December 2012)
The NALIS Foundation

After the successful establishment of NALISF, the acquisition of the necessary software platform (in 2009) and the very construction of the National Academic Library and Information System (in 2010), in 2011 and 2012 the net of academic libraries and the NALIS Union Catalogue were further developed by means of including new associate members and a large number of retroconverted records and digital objects. The records of the following libraries were integrated into the NALIS Union Catalogue (NALIS UC):

- Central Library of BAS;
- Sofia University Library “St. Kliment Ohridski”;
- Panitza Library at the American University in Bulgaria;
- VUZF University, Sofia;
- New Bulgarian University, Sofia;
- Union of Architects in Bulgaria, Sofia;
- Plovdiv University, Plovdiv;
- University of Economics, Varna;
- Central Medical Library, Sofia;
- Technical University of Gabrovo;
- D. A. Tsenov Academy of Economics, Svishtov;
- Agricultural University, Plovdiv;
- Technical University of Sofia;
- Technical University of Sofia, Branch Plovdiv;
- American Research Center in Sofia;
- Ivan Vazov Public Library, Plovdiv;



- Sofia City Library;
- P. K. Yavorov Regional Library of Burgas;
- Trakia University, Stara Zagora;
- P. R. Slaveykov Regional Library of Veliko Tarnovo;
- Central Agricultural Library, Sofia;
- University of Mining and Geology "St. Ivan Rilski", Sofia;
- Vasil Levski National Military University, Veliko Tarnovo;
- University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, Sofia;
- Technical University of Varna;
- Lyuben Karavelov Regional Library, Ruse;
- National and University Library of Kosova, Pristina.

The work on establishing standard cataloguing rules for all the institutions involved has also continued.

I.

New participants in the NALIS Project

After the 9 associate NALISF members in 2011, in 2012 11 further institutions become involved in the project – one of which foreign (in brackets below are the dates of contracting):

- Technical University of Sofia, Branch Plovdiv (26 Jan)
- American Research Center in Sofia (19 Apr)
- Ivan Vazov Public Library, Plovdiv (3 May)
- Sofia City Library (9 May)
- P. K. Yavorov Regional Library of Burgas (11 May)
- Trakia University, Stara Zagora (17 May)
- P. R. Slaveykov Regional Library of Veliko Tarnovo (22 May)
- Central Agricultural Library, Sofia (30 Oct)
- University of Mining and Geology "St. Ivan Rilski", Sofia (30 Oct)
- Vasil Levski National Military University, Veliko Tarnovo (16 Nov)
- University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, Sofia (17 Dec)

10 of these libraries use the AB Library Software (of PC-TM), and 6 – as the majority of the regional libraries in Bulgaria – the e-Lib LIS (of SoftLib). We contracted the latter on 31 Jul to develop a program for an output in MARCXML from the regional libraries' REGINA Books Union Catalogue into the NALIS UC.



A new stage in the NALIS project was the attempt to attract foreign associates. We had preliminary talks with:

- National and University Library of Kosova, Pristina (contracted on 6 Aug);
- Central University Library "Carol I", Bucharest;
- University Library "Svetozar Markovic" in Belgrade.

The NALISF associate members signed an Annex to the Associate Membership Agreement, which ensured that they would publish a link to the NALIS UC on their websites. This new requirement to the contract was met by the end of the year. NALISF and its members discussed the opportunities to popularise the catalogue among the respective universities' students and lecturers in Sept. The [second annual meeting](#) of the NALISF associate members took place in Dec.

There were preliminary talks with some other institutions, namely:

- University of National and World Economy, Sofia (they declined to participate in the NALIS UC on 22 May);
- Regional Library "Pencho Slaveykov", Varna;
- Medical University, Plovdiv;
- University of Veliko Tarnovo (we met the management and staff of the University library to discuss the Associated Membership Agreement with them on 12 Jun);
- Academic Library and Archives at the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts, Sofia;
- Regional Library "Aprilov-Palauzov", Gabrovo;
- Regional Library "Sava Dobroplodni", Sliven;
- University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy, Sofia.

II.

Participation in national initiatives

In 2012 NALISF was invited to participate in the creation of two national strategies: one in the library field, related to the Bulgarian literary heritage; the other one aimed at our entire cultural heritage. In March the NALISF Deputy Executive Director began her expert participation in the creation of the national strategy and programme for preservation and access to the literary cultural heritage kept at Bulgarian libraries (a BLIA project, funded by the "America for Bulgaria" Foundation). Shortly thereafter, both she and the NALISF Executive Director



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became involved in the second initiative organised by the “13 Centuries Bulgaria” Fund. The first initiative resulted in the publication of a brochure from BLIA and its formal presentation to the library community (14 May) and the second continued throughout the year with the establishment of a National Council for digitisation and its monthly meetings.

III. Software platform necessary for the creation of a library and information network

After configuring the software in 2010, its additional adjustment and adaptation to the needs of the associated libraries and of their patrons in 2011, in 2012 NALISF dedicated its efforts to the optimal use of the software and to the creation of some applications to it. The adaptation of the software to the specific needs of the libraries acquiring Package 1 has continued.

The integration of all available records (the retroconverted by the founder libraries and those from the associated members) into **Primo** broadened the content of the NALIS UC to 1,686,829 entries in total.

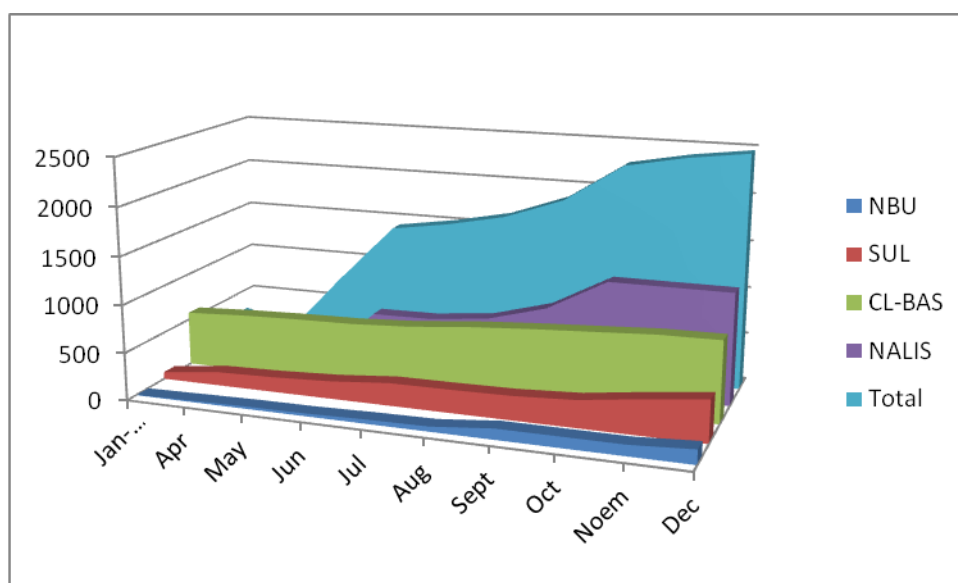
The work on this software this year was mainly on updates and improvements, including of the NALIS UC homepage and of the user interface. Other important activities related to Primo were:

- Correction of errors in the outputs prepared by PC-TM and SoftLib;
- Integration of the new records belonging to the libraries using the AB software and correction of the old records already integrated in the NALIS UC;
- Integration of the records belonging to libraries using the e-Lib software (the REGINA Books Catalogue) into the NALIS UC;
- Additional configuration of the deduplication and FRBRisation in Primo;
- Update of the NBU bibliographic data (including their electronic publications database) and of AUBG;
- Successful testing of bibliographic data from the University Library in Bucharest and their integration into the Primo test server.

At present, with the aid of **DigiTool**, 2,475 digital objects are available, i.e. 85% more than their number in 2011. The whole content – mostly rare old-printed books, manuscript letters and old photographs – is freely available [online](#) and is distributed by institutions as follows: CL-BAS – 2 collections of total 857 objects, SU-UL – 7



collections of 389 objects, NBU – 107 and NALIS – 1,179 (collected from various institutions in the country). The increase by months is reflected in the following graph:



These achievements are a consequence from of a careful preparatory work, namely:

- Development of a model for the description of digital objects;
- Development of a model for the description of digital collections (NALISF consulted the US Library of Congress and the National Library of Israel in this regard);
- Development of a workflow for submission of photographs and metadata to the EuropeanaPotography project (see below) and of a program for preparation of metadata to the respective images;
- Configuration of the DigiTool normalisation rules and mapping of the MARC 21 metadata in Dublin Core;
- Synchronisation between ALEPH and DigiTool;
- Improvement of the DigiTool GUI and Installation of Package 3.4.1;
- Development of a program for the conversion of metadata from MARC/DigiTool in LIDO/ESE Europeana.

Moreover, we have supported CL-BAS, SUL and NBU in their daily digitisation, helped them resolve software issues and actively participated in the editing and publication of digitised books from CL-BAS.



Our work on **SFX/MetaLib** have been focused primarily on the subscription: update of the CL-BAS, SUL and AUBG subscription, of the national subscription, configuration of the two modules so that the nationally subscribed libraries could use the SFX/ML databases. We have also collected the IP addresses of our associate members for the purpose of searching the unified national subscribed databases. Moreover, we have aligned the names of the subscribed databases in MetaLib, after their displacement during the latest update. In the second half of the year – and after the installment of the updates – the two modules functioned well and did not require further improvements.

As far as **ALEPH** is concerned, we have created statistical outputs, configured the synchronisation of metadata from ALEPH to DigiTool and improved the communication between the two modules. The software was updated and its latest patches – installed. The rest of our tasks have been related to certain NALIS founders and associate members:

- 32 additional hours of training in ALEPH intended for the VUZF librarians, some technical support, development of bibliographic data output for VUZF and a preparation for the launch of a project for the input of the data about their library fund;
- Configuration of a sublibrary for ARCS, installation and configuration of the software to meet the requirements of ARCS, preparation of tutorials for the software usage;
- Configuration of both a holdings database for ARCS and of call numbers for their needs;
- Documentation for the registration of a single volume book and for the retrospective conversion of a single volume book for ARCS, advising of the same institution on a daily basis;
- Development of a program to print barcodes and call numbers for the needs of ARCS and CL-BAS;
- Interface improvements, development of bibliographic and administrative control programs.

IV. Retroconversion

The total number of the records retroconverted in 2012 is 449,083, i.e. with 53% more than the number from the previous year. The graph below shows the participation of each of the founding libraries by months:



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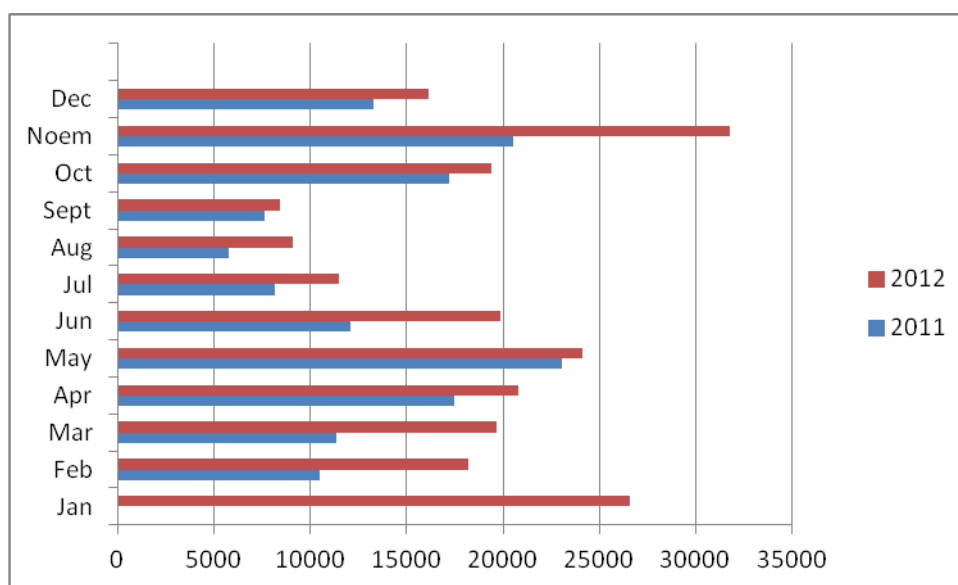
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V. NALIS Union Catalogue

The total ***number in the NALIS Union Catalogue*** reached **1,686,829** by the end of Dec, after the integration of the retroconverted records and the records provided by the associated members.

The chart below shows the statistics of ***the searches in the NALIS Union Catalogue***:



Note: The January 2011 data are not included due to technical reasons.

VI. Training

In 2012, 2 courses were organised by NALISF for its associate members and 5 webinars were organised by Ex Libris for the NALISF team, as follows:

- For the NALISF associate members
 - o Three-day course in MARC 21 (at the NALISF office, 03-06 Jan, lectured S. Aneva, assisted by E. Gerasmiova);
 - o Two-week course in MARC 21 and ALEPH 500, v. 20.1 (at the NALISF office, 18-29 Jun, lectured S. Aneva, assisted by E. Gerasmiova and Ts. Hristova).
- For the NALISF team
 - o In Alma (06 Nov)
 - o In Rosetta (14 Nov)
 - o In the cloud technologies and their applications by Ex Libris (20 Nov)
 - o Two online courses in ALEPH printing (28 Nov and 05 Dec).

In addition, the NALISF team joined the annual IGeLU conference (11-13 Sept).



VII. Library Formats

We continued our work on the translation and editing of the documents related to **MARC 21** and on ensuring the free access of the Bulgarian library community to it.

- Our translation, editing and proofreading of *Understanding MARC Holding Records* were completed. By the end of the year the document was ready to be published [online](#) on the NALISF website.
- We also added the Spanish terms to the [Online Multilingual Dictionary of MARC 21 Terms](#). In October, we finalised the part comprised of the terms found in the three brochures (*Understanding MARC Bibliographic*, *Understanding MARC Authority Records* and *Understanding MARC Holding Records*), in November we edited the material accumulated in the dictionary, expanded the bibliography to it and posted it on our website. We then started translating the terms excerpted from the *MARC 21 Bibliographic Format*. We have also informed the US Library of Congress for all our publications of the year related to MARC 21.
- We started dealing with the last of the papers scheduled for translation, namely the MARC 21 Format for Authority Data, at the end of the year.

IX. Publicity and promotion of NALIS activities

In 2012 NALISF continued to gain ground among the professional community and public space. There were various events in this respect: an interview of D. Krastev on Evropa TV (22 Apr), an interview of S. Aneva on Radio "Alma Mater FM Classic" (16 May) and many other public appearances. Some of them were related to S. Aneva's presentations of the NALIS UC functionalities at the following institutions:

- Technical University of Gabrovo (18 Apr);
- Academy of Sciences in Sofia (in the context of the National Library Week) (18 May);
- University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy in Sofia (06 June)
- National Military University "Vasil Levski" – at the International Conference dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the institution (14 June).

As well as at the following conferences:



- An ethnographic conference, Gabrovo (5 Sept);
- The XIV traditional conference of the e-Lib users, Plovdiv (1 Oct);
- XI National Conference "Libraries – Reading – Communications", Veliko Tarnovo (16 Nov).

Our participation in the rest of the conferences (see below) has aimed at pinpointing the needs of standards in both cataloguing and metadata, at popularising our role in the EuropeanaPhotography project and at presenting our digitalisation activity;

- E. Dimitrov presented NALISF and our implementation of DigiTool at the Day of Technologies Forum, Iliev Center, Sofia (23 March);
- D. Krastev talked about our participation in EuropeanaPhotography at the Digitisation of Cultural Heritage conference, Plovdiv (3 Apr) and the NALISF activities at the annual meeting of the participants in the "World Digital Library" (WDL) in Washington as well as before the management of the US National Archives (NARA) and representatives of the New York Public Library;
- S. Aneva presented our participation in EuropeanaPhotography at a conference dedicated to the Bulgarian involvement in Europeana, Varna (17 Oct) and, together with E. Dimitrov, – at the "Libraries – Reading – Communications" XI National Conference, Veliko Tarnovo (16 Nov) and at the Forum for digitisation of photographs, Sofia (17 Nov);
- E. Dikova gave some details on the digitisation at NALIS at the XXII Conference BLIA (7 June) and on the need for uniform standards at the the "Libraries – Reading – Communications" XI National Conference, Veliko Tarnovo (16 Nov).

We also invited Pamela Wright, NARA's Chief Innovation Officer (former Chief Digital Access Strategist) and assisted her participation in the international conference entitled Archives, Universities, Libraries and Cultural Heritage Digitisation (19 Nov), organised by the Sofia University and the Archives State Agency. Her encounters with our team had a very fruitful result in the construction of our promotional strategy for 2013.

The NALISF website is constantly updated with news and other relevant information. We made and distributed effective promotional materials such as flashcards (portable memory), a desktop calendar and bookmarks.

The homepage of NALIS UC published three booklets to facilitate the library patrons:



- Guide for search in the NALIS Libraries;
- Frequently Asked Questions.

We have regularly informed our associate members and the members of the NALISF Council of Experts on the Foundation's activities.

IX. Participation in international projects

1. EuropeanaPhotography*

This EU project started in early 2012. NALISF participates in it together with 18 other organisations from 15 countries. The project aims to provide, through the Europeana portal, more than half a million photographs from the period between 1839 and 1939. NALISF will provide 15,000 photographs. Unlike the majority of the participants owning collections, NALIS relies on cooperation with other institutions such as the Bulgarian Archives State Agency, St. St. Cyril and Methodius National Library, National Museum of History and others.

To start cooperation with other organisations we conducted serious research, documentary and technical training. The organisations willing to cooperate have been identified. An example contract was prepared with which the organisations grant NALISF a license giving it the right to provide the respective photographs through Europeana. We have so far contracted the following institutions:

- St. St. Cyril and Methodius National Library (6 dec);
- Museum of Military History – Pleven (30 Aug);
- Sredets Municipal Cultural Institute, Sofia History Museum (24 Aug);
- Helena and Ivan Dujčev Foundation (16 Aug);
- Centre of Historical and Politological Research at the National Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (20 Jul);
- Museum of National Crafts and Applied Arts – Troyan (17 Jul);
- Regional Archaeological Museum – Plovdiv (29 Jun);
- National Museum of History (12 Jun);
- P. R. Slaveykov Regional Library – Veliko Tarnovo (13 Jun);
- Ivan Vazov Public Library – Plovdiv (1 Jun).

* This part was prepared by Evgeni Dimitrov, the NALISF coordinator of the project.



A software and instruction has been developed for them to prepare the photographs and descriptions (metadata) for transfer. Another software has been prepared that allows smaller institutions to use the ready metadata – as some kind of an information system to their photo archive. Besides, a glossary of keywords for the description of the photographs was made.

Another software – for the input of photographs and descriptions in DigiTool – has been also developed. So all participants can now see what has already been submitted for the project. Yet another development is a software that ensures the independence of the data submitted to Europeana from the respective software platform.

The results achieved so far:

- We have attracted 10 institutions to take part in the project;
- We have acquired 1,400 photographs with metadata and, after some additional processing and editing, we published 1,300 of them and made them [accessible](#) through DigiTool;
- We gave 4 presentations at certain national conferences in order to popularise the project;
- [Updated information](#) on the project is available at the NALISF website.

2. World Digital Library

World Digital Library (WDL) is an international project initiated by the US Library of Congress and UNESCO. It provides free internet access to a variety of important primary sources from around the world. Its main objectives are to promote international and intercultural understanding, to increase the cultural content on the Internet in volume and variety, to provide students, scholars, professionals and the wider audience with the texts and images they need.

In 2012 we signed a contract for voluntary cooperation (15 May), prepared 400 digitised old-printed books from the CL-BAS' collection, configured the HTTP server and submitted 10 of these books for publishing on their [website](#).

D.Krastev presented NALISF at the annual meeting of the WDL members in Washington.



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X. Management and Administration

In 2012 the NALIS Foundation was managed in strict accordance with the rules and procedures adopted by the Board of Founders and the Board of Directors.

Seven ***meetings of the Board of Directors*** were held, as well as one ***meeting of the Council of Founders***.

All monthly and quarterly ***reports*** were timely prepared and provided to the Board of Directors and ABF.

11 January, 2012

Ekaterina Dikova:
NALIS Project Manager