



ФОНДАЦИЯ
НАЦИОНАЛНА АКАДЕМИЧНА
БИБЛИОТЕЧНО-ИНФОРМАЦИОННА СИСТЕМА

КЛИК КЪМ ЗНАНИЕТО

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Approved by:

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ANNUAL REPORT
(1 January – 31 December 2015)
NALIS Foundation

In May 2015 the NALIS Project supported by the America for Bulgaria Foundation (ABF) entered its seventh year. During that period NALIS laid the foundations of a modern library information system in accordance with the fast development of advanced technologies. The primary objective has been achieved – building of an online union catalogue for integrated search of bibliographic information to serve scientists, university students, professors and any other user. After the software provision, the system testing, the association of libraries and the training of their experts, the project entered a new stage – popularisation of the [NALIS Union Catalogue](#) and expansion of the library network.

Our contract with ABF ends in may 2016 and the NALIS Foundation needs to establish a new financial model for itself. In 2015 great efforts were made to ensure the future funding of the NALIS activities. We had numerous contacts with government institutions; we explored opportunities for participation in EU and other projects. We developed plans for budget cuts, particularly the expenses concerning software provision: we rationalised the products we used so far, made a transition to open source software, etc. The NALIS Foundation took the necessary steps to inform the provider ExLibris of the possible cancellation of contracts.



I.

Expansion of the NALIS Project range

In 2015 we signed **7 new contracts** for integration of the bibliographic records from the respective libraries into the NALIS Union Catalogue (the sign date is given in parenthesis):

- Medical University, Pleven (26.01);
- Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre at BAS (17.03);
- National Academy of Art, Sofia (25.03);
- University of Food Technologies, Plovdiv (30.03);
- *Konstantin Preslavski* University of Shumen (28.04);
- South-West University, Blagoevgrad (02.06);
- *Dimitar Talev* Regional Library (07.07).

The total number of institutions involved in the NALIS project is now 48: 3 founding members, the National Library, 40 associate members and 4 foreign institutions.

The work with the associate members comprised of maintenance and adaptation of software and discussions of future projects for collaboration. [**The Annual Meeting of the NALIS Associate Members**](#) was held in March. 44 representatives from 25 institutions discussed the NALIS activities in 2014, as well as basic principles of digitisation, the usage of the Interlibrary Loan Module developed in 2013, and the communications between the consortium members.

II.

Software platform for the NALIS network development

In 2015 we continued our efforts to enrich the NALIS Union Catalogue: both through update of records from institutions that have already been included in our library network, and through integration of records from the online catalogues of new associate members.

- **ALEPH**

During the reported period, the main activities in connection to the ALEPH library system were directed towards configurations and consultations for the needs of the founders. In January and February a logical library for bibliographic records with



analytic description of articles was created, for the Central Library of BAS. In March expert help for service outputs was provided to the *St. Kliment Ohridski* University Library. In May an output from the Central Library of BAS database was developed.

- **SFX/MetaLib**

In 2015 the New Bulgarian University library and the AUBG *Panitza* Library renewed their subscriptions. The SFX/MetaLib modules functioned well in the past year and did not require additional upgrades.

- **Primo**

The main Primo activities were: update and integration of bibliographic records, update of the test and production servers to the latest version, and technical support. We continued the tests of the Romanian Academy of Sciences records. We translated in Bulgarian the interface of the newest Primo version.

During the reported period, the records of the following institutions were integrated: the National Centre for Information and Documentation, the Medical University-Pleven, the National Academy of Arts, the University of Shumen, the Regional Library of Blagoevgrad, and the dissertation papers of the National Library. The Primo database was updated with records from the Regional Library of Veliko Tarnovo, the Regional Library of Burgas, the NBU and 17 libraries that use the *Automated Library* software of the PC-TM Company. In September we started tests of the University of Agribusiness and Rural Development-Plovdiv, and in December we received outputs for update of the Technical University-Sofia records.

- **Rosetta**

After the decision made in 2014 to migrate from DigiTool to Rosetta, in the beginning of 2015 certain problems in the new software were detected. The correspondence with ExLibris did not lead to a permanent solution, and a decision was made to continue integration of digital objects into DigiTool until the Rosetta software is being perfected. The production server of Rosetta was upgraded to version 4.1 in April, 4.2 in July, and 4.3 in October. We made improvements of the photography viewer, and developed an application for the input of objects. The migration of the EuropeanaPhotography collection to Rosetta was made. We started researching other up-to-date software programmes for digital content management and comparing their functionalities to Rosetta's.



• DigiTool

During the reported period, we continued our efforts to develop a union digital library through DigiTool. The successful functioning of this programme was ensured by the following activities:

- Development of a pdf viewer for DigiTool based on FlexPaper;
- Development of a programme for export of METS files from DigiTool and actual export of those METS files;
- Reconfiguring of the discs;
- Preparation for transfer of scanned copies of the *Mir* newspaper on the NALIS servers;
- Installation and tests of FlexPaper (pdf files viewer);
- Configuring access rights for DigiTool via Aleph for the *St. Kliment Ohridski* University Library for certain categories of students;
- Development of programmes for the integration of FlexPaper viewer into DigiTool;
- Export of formats for digitised periodicals;
- Preparation of versions for input of medieval manuscripts;
- Installation of the software required (ImageMagic, etc.) for rewriting/reformatting of digitised periodicals;
- Installation of ImageMagic on a server for the conversion of the *Mir* newspaper into jp2;
- Configuration of the server for storage of digitised periodicals, and installation of the operation system CentOS for the purposes of visualisation of the digitised periodicals;
- Upgrade to Java8, Tomcat8, viewers for newspapers, photographs and pdf;
- Configuration of disk space and administrative interface for digital collections and old printed newspapers;
- Development of a programme and workflow for input of microfilms for BAS;
- Development of a viewer for pdf files with METS for DigiTool;
- Output and provision of the NBU DigiTool data to the NBU.

Along with that, the NALIS Foundation provided support to the Central Library of BAS, the *St. Kliment Ohridski* University Library and the AUBG *Panitza* Library for their digitisation activities, solved software problems, and actively helped the Central Library of BAS in the editing and publishing of digitised 19th century books.

The overall number of digital objects provided for the NALIS project is currently 21 348. Another 2 633 digital objects, which belong to the National Library and were created with software other than DigiTool, are accessible through the NALIS Union Catalogue. The distribution by institutions is shown on the graph below:

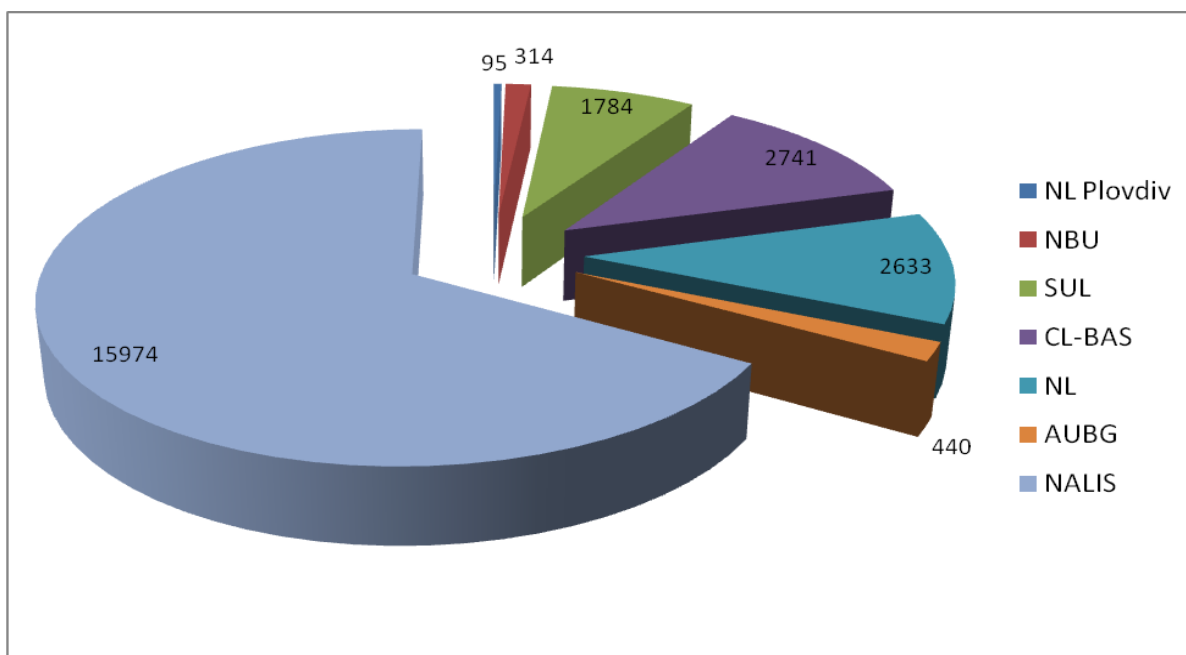


Fig. 1

The following graph shows the interest towards the digital objects published on the NALIS servers in the period between 2013 and 2015 and the number of views by institutions:

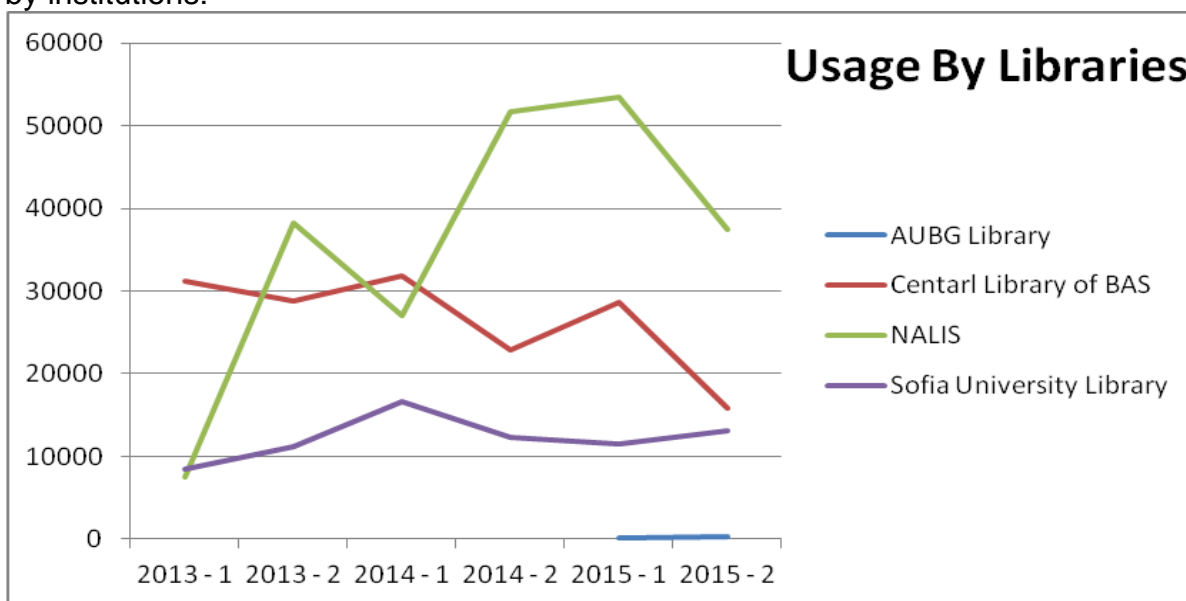


Fig. 2



- **NALIS Digital Library**

In September we started preparing for migration from DigiTool to the NALIS Digital Library (a software solution developed by the foundation's programmers). This meant configuration of the user interface and the metadata formats, development of viewers and a preliminary test migration of the EuropeanaPhotography photographs from DigiTool. The product was demonstrated to representatives of the NALIS founders and ABF in November. The decision for migration from DigiTool to the NALIS Digital Library was made on a Board of Directors meeting that took place on 23 November.

- **Interlibrary Loan**

In 2015 the **Interlibrary Loan module** of the NALIS Union Catalogue was used 289 times, 633 times in total since its launch in November 2013. The following graph shows the monthly activity from November 2013 until the end of 2015:

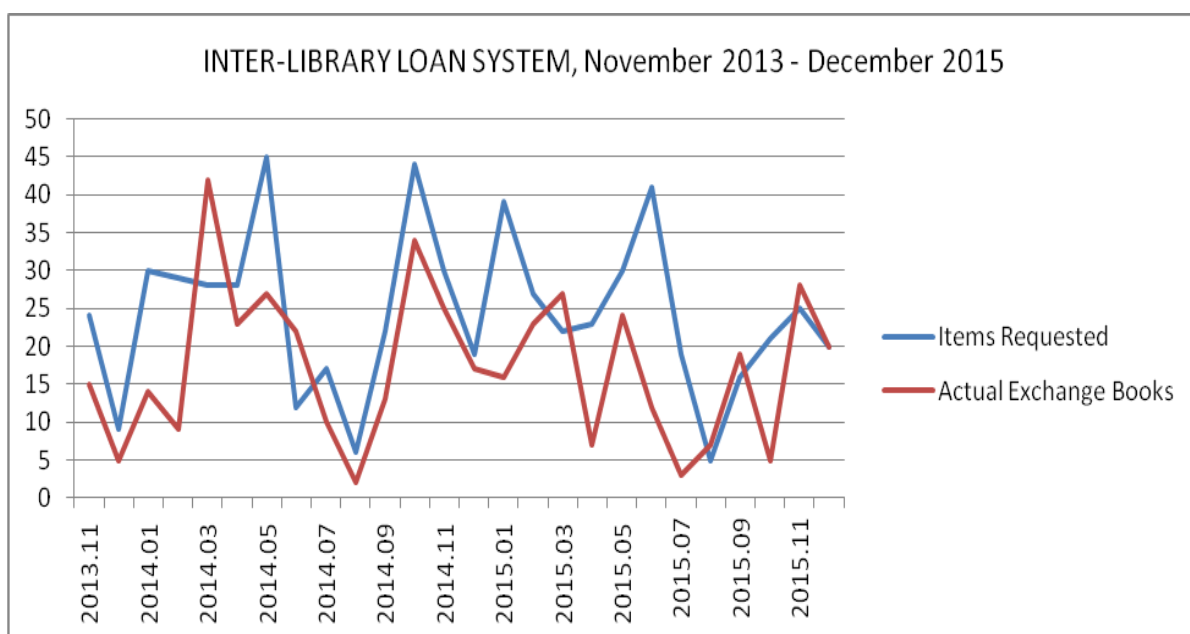


Fig. 3



III. Retroconversion

The total number of records that were retroconverted in 2015 is **83 108**. Since the start of the project for retrospective conversion of the founding libraries' funds (June 2010) a total of 1 160 380 bibliographic records were retroconverted. Here is the contribution of each institution:

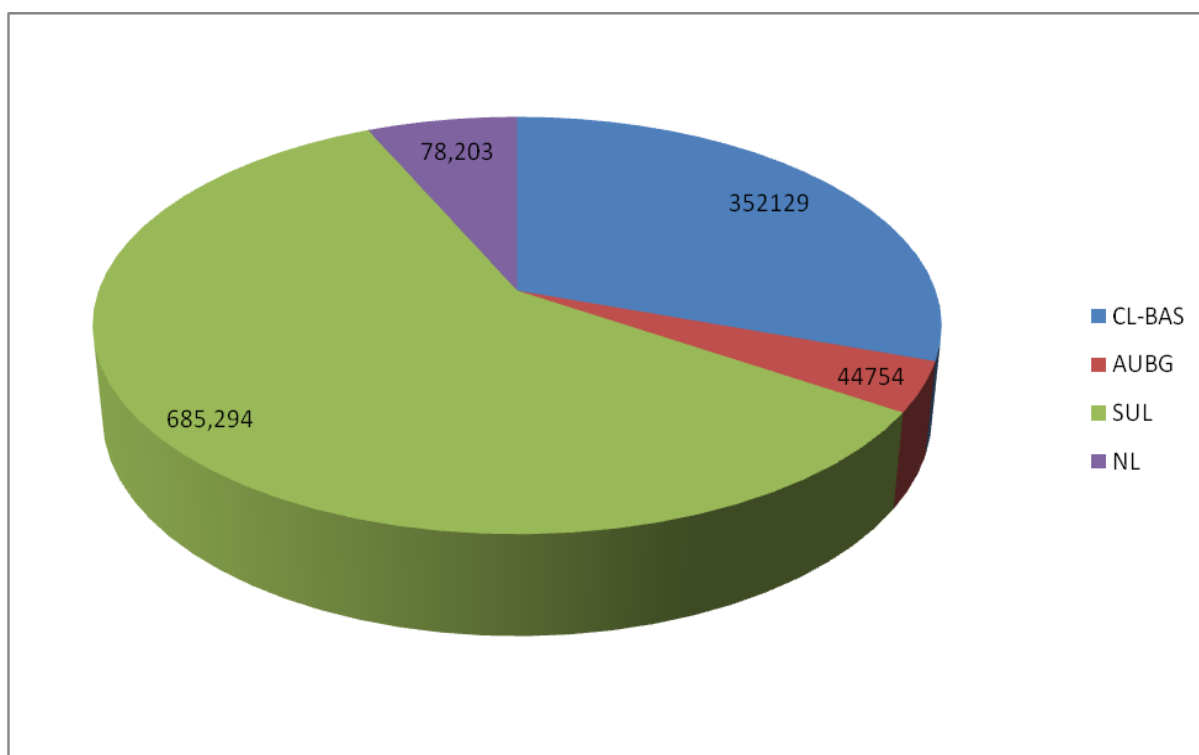


Fig. 4

The following two graphs show retroconversion as a percentage of the overall work done by the two main libraries that had undertaken that project (Central Library of BAS and Sofia University Library):



BAS BIB records from 1 Jun 2010 till 31 Dec 2015

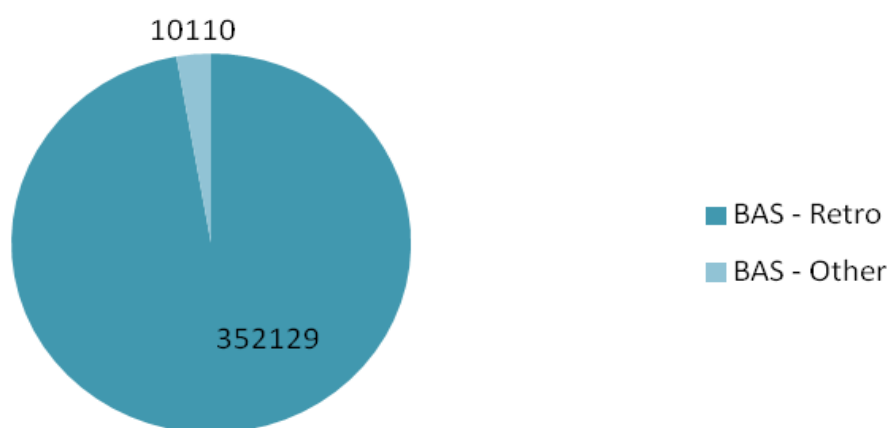


Fig. 5

SU BIB records from 1 Jun 2010 till 31 Dec 2015

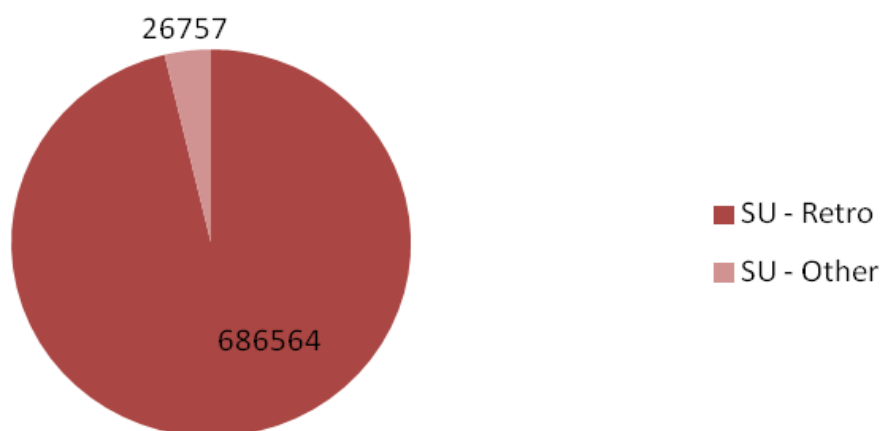


Fig. 6



IV. The NALIS Union Catalogue

After the integration of the retroconverted records and the records provided by the associate members, the overall number in the **NALIS Union Catalogue** by the end of December 2015 is **3 115 858**, or 18% more than the previous year.

The following graph shows the increase of records in the NALIS UC through the years:

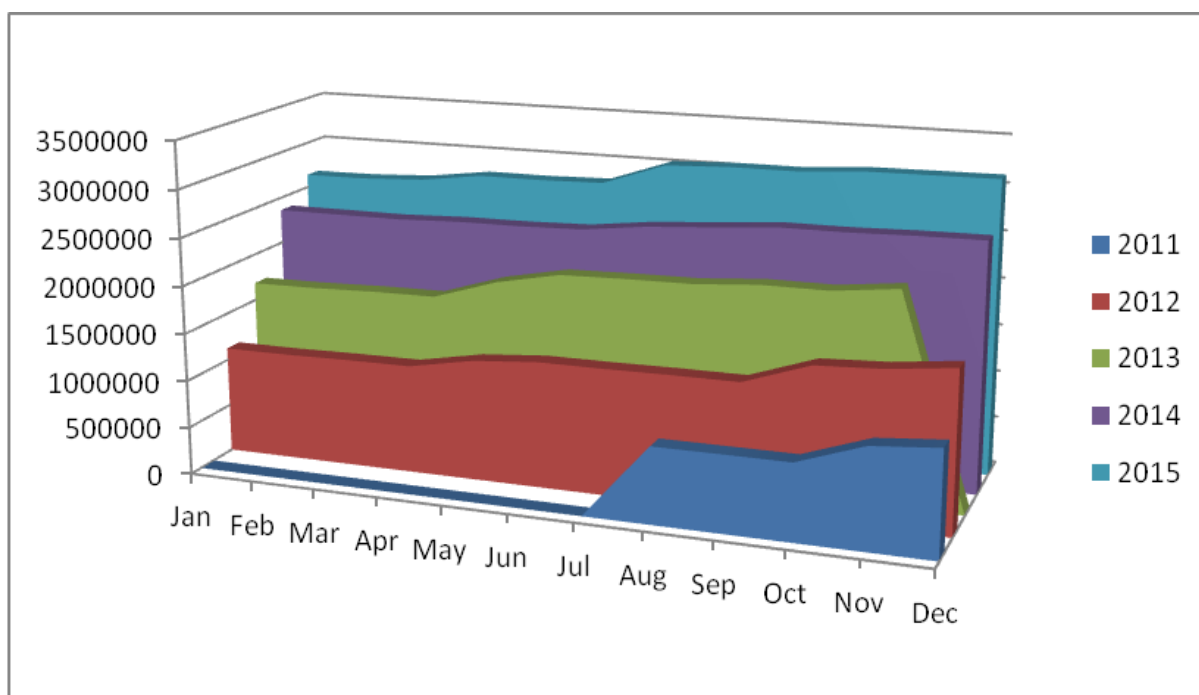


Fig. 7

The number of **monthly user searches in the NALIS Union Catalogue** is presented on the graph below. In 2011-2013 the statistical data was provided by Primo Reports and since the beginning of 2014 – by Google Analytics.

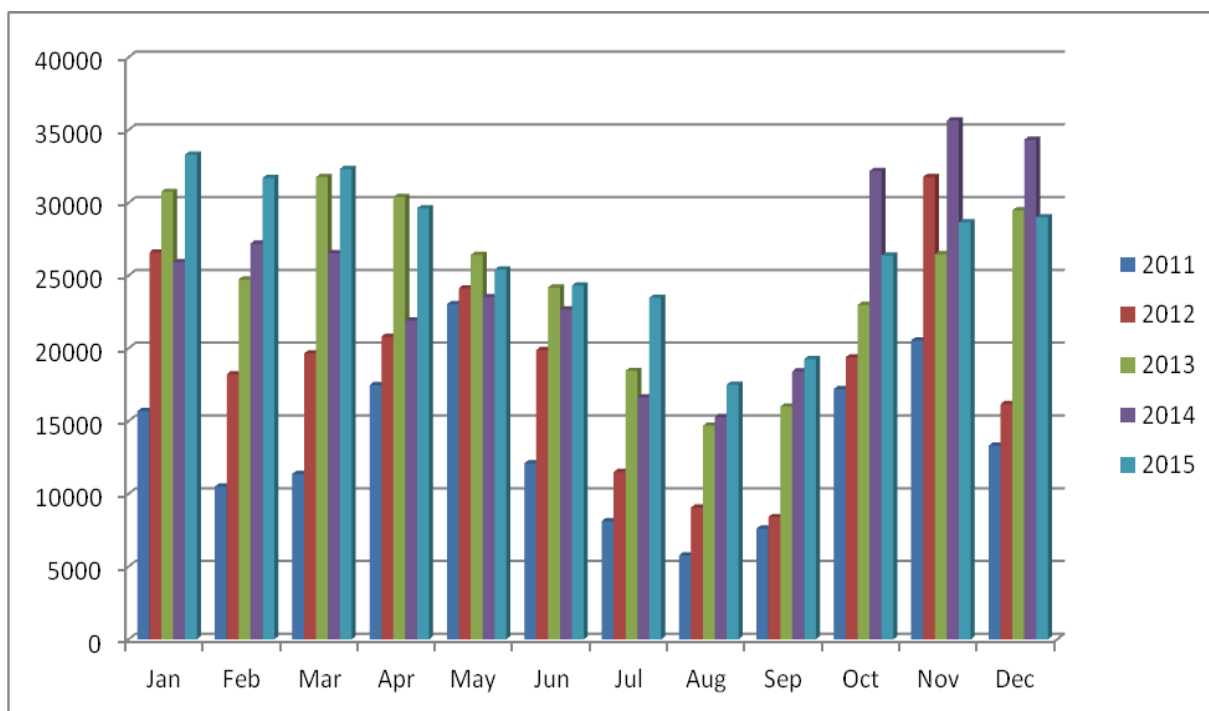


Fig. 8

The number of catalogue searches constantly increases through the years. We observed a slight moderation in the last three months of 2015, yet the yearly number of searches is more than the previous year by 20 764.

The following graphs provide data for the number of users and their behaviour upon visiting the NALIS Union Catalogue:

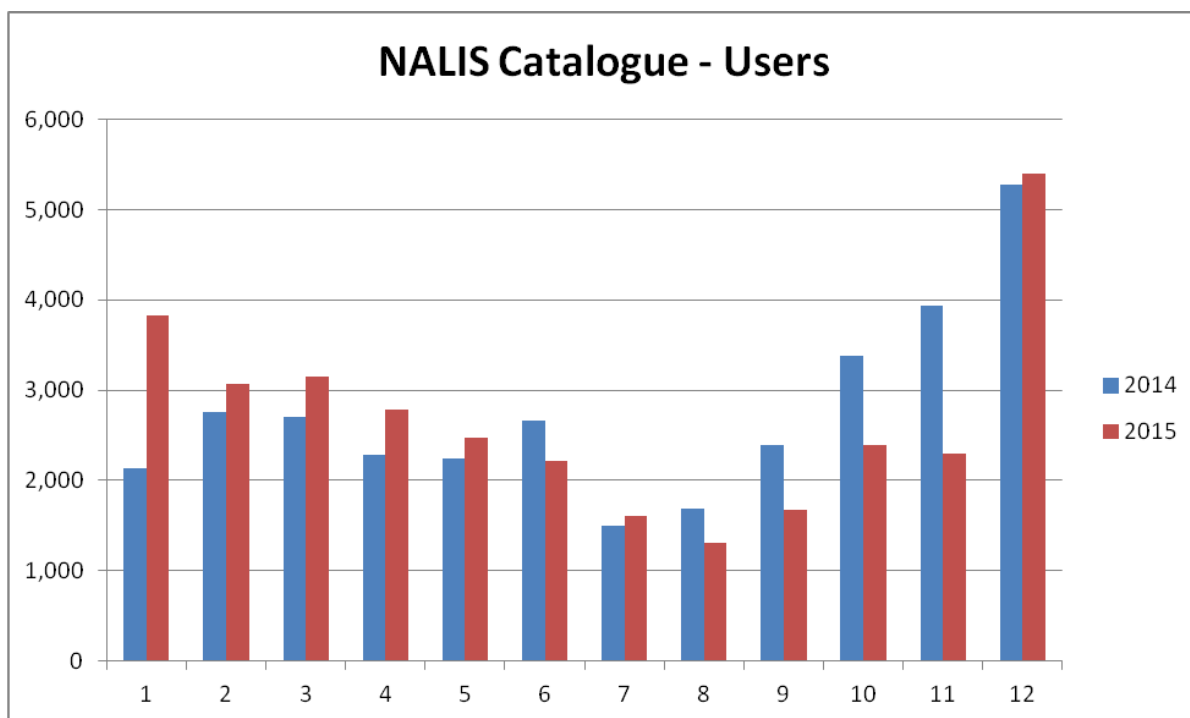


Fig. 9

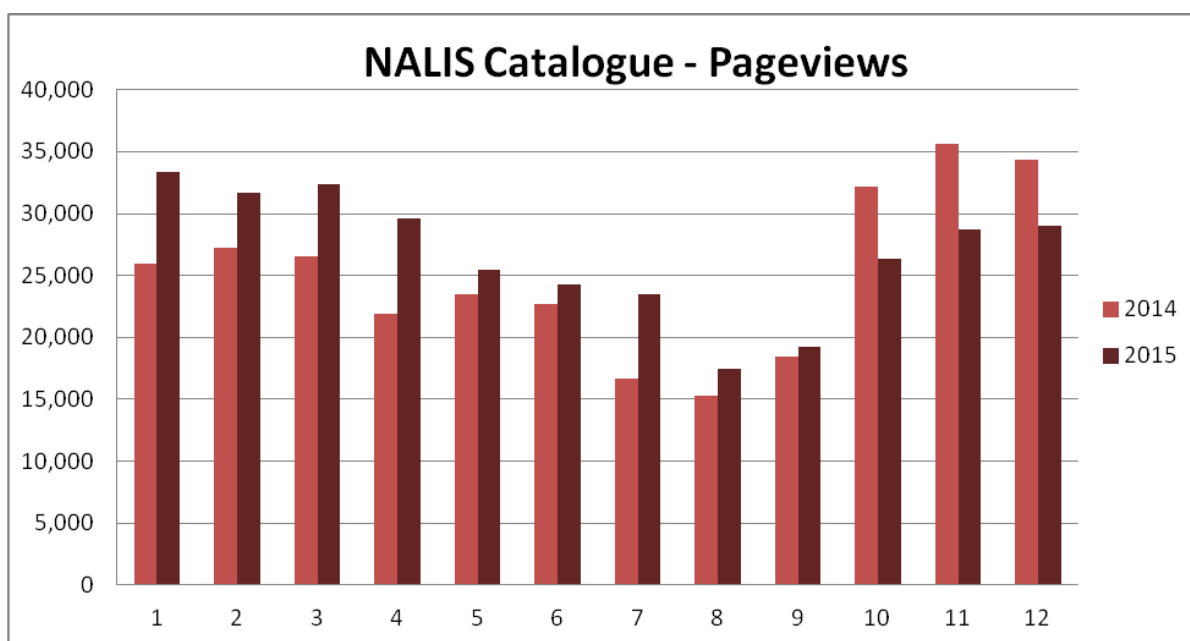


Fig. 10

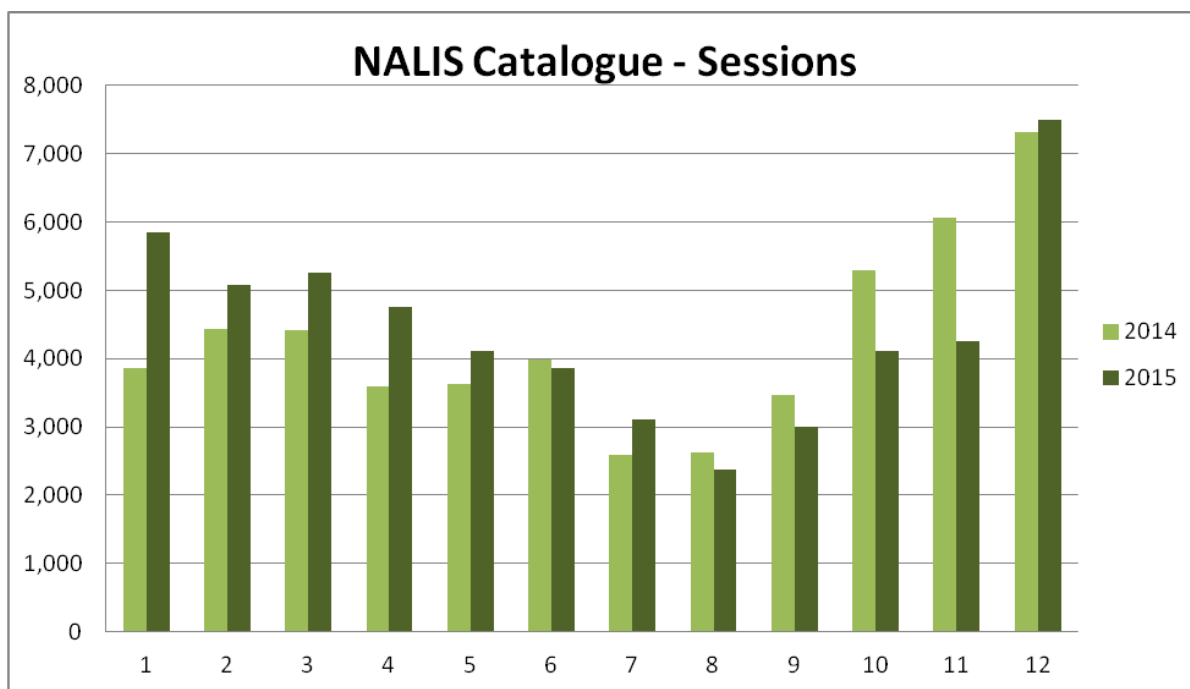


Fig. 11

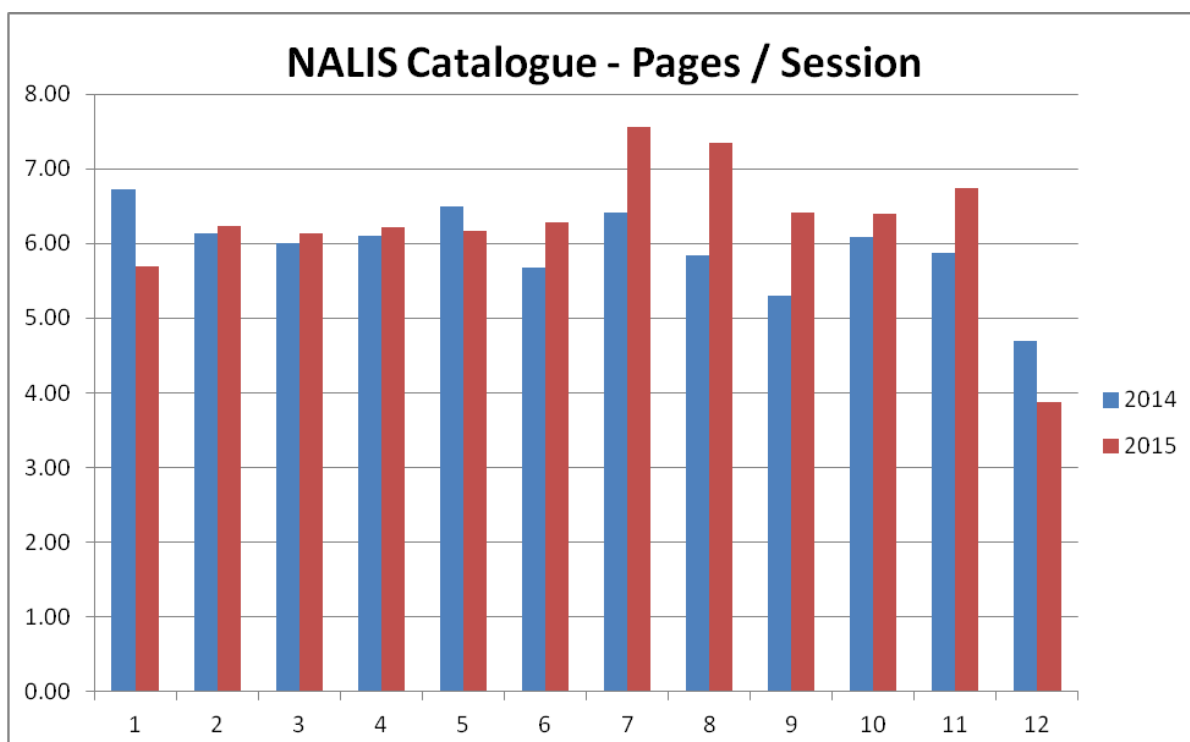


Fig. 12

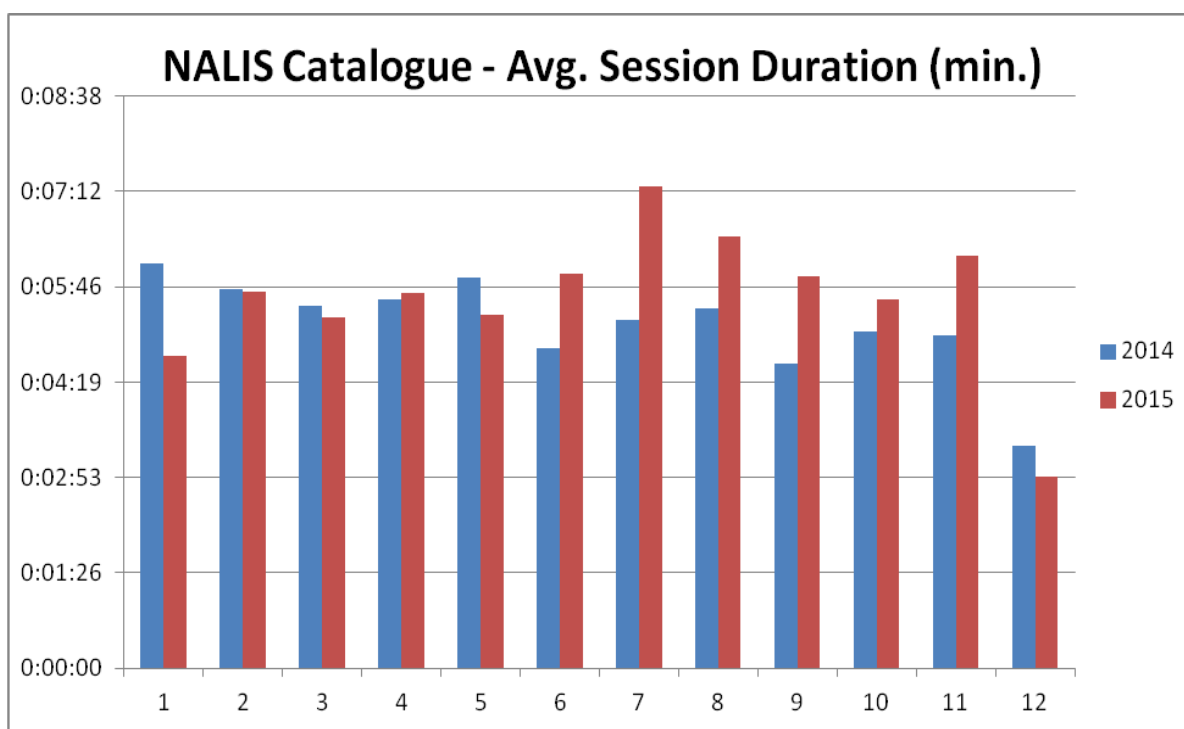


Fig. 13

V. Training

In 2015 NALIS organised 3 one-day courses on the subject of *Creation of Digital Objects and Collections by Means of the DigiTool Software*. Participants were 9 experts from the Plovdiv Public Library, the American University in Bulgaria and the Central Library of BAS.

Along with that, the NALIS team participated in the annual meeting of Rosetta users and administrators in June, which took place in Leuven. We also visited, together with colleagues from the Sofia University Library, the annual forum of ExLibris users in Budapest. NALIS experts also attended a training on the subject of *Project Management of Programme BG08: Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Arts* in Burgas.



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VI.

Publicity and promotion of the NALIS Foundation activities

The NALIS international forum - [*The Challenge to Collaborate in the Digital Age*](#) – was held in May. The lecturers were representatives of leading libraries and library networks from Europe and the US, who shared their experience in local and global collaboration in connection with projects about digitisation, creative re-use of digitised cultural heritage, citizens participation and cooperation not only within the library community, but also with the IT community. The Forum programme was as follows:

- ✓ The event was opened by Vanya Kastreva, Deputy Minister of Education, and Carl H. Pforzheimer III, Co-Chairman of the America for Bulgaria Foundation.
- ✓ Antonella Fresa, Director of Promoter, the established company for management of international projects: *From digitisation to the re-use of digital cultural content and citizens participation*
- ✓ Wolfgang Hamedinger, Director of OBVSG, the Austrian library network: *Cooperation becoming a habit: benefits and challenges in the Austrian Library Network;*
- ✓ Jo Rademakers, Director of LIBIS, the Belgian library network: *Adapting to a new reality. New opportunities for library service providers;*
- ✓ Ann Thornton, Andrew W. Mellon Director of the New York Public Libraries: *The library as digital co-laboratory;*
- ✓ Richard Ovenden, Bodley's Librarian at The Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford: *Local and global collaboration in a digital age: some case studies from the Bodleian libraries.*

The event was attended by 150 people – representatives of Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Bulgarian Parliament, and other official guests, as well as representatives of the NALIS founders, associate members, and other libraries, universities, museums, NGOs and various cultural institutions.

In 2015 the NALIS Foundation made a serious effort to popularise its activity. Information for the followers of the NALIS **Facebook page** was sought and published daily – these were materials often redirecting to the NALIS website or the NALIS UC website. The **websites** (of the foundation and of the catalogue) were regularly updated in their Bulgarian and English versions. The NALIS YouTube channel was updated with videos from the international forum, held in May.



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There were over 30 **mass media appearances** of the NALIS Foundation in 2015. Links to the most important of them can be found on the NALIS website (see [Others About Us](#) section), including two radio interviews for the Bulgarian National Radio, and three television interviews for TV7 and Bulgaria On Air. We disseminated 11 issues of the [NALIS Newsletter](#).

The 5 Most Sought After Titles Campaign for stimulation of academic reading ended in April 2015. More than 100 people chose to participate, and the number of NALIS Union Catalogue searches increased distinctly (see Fig. 8). At the end of October we launched a subway ad campaign in order to attract the attention of university students in the beginning of the new academic year. We also had leaflets printed and disseminated.

The NALIS project was promoted on several **conferences**. In June Sabina Aneva read a lecture in Sofia University to students from the *Management of Electronic Contents* Master's programme, where she introduced them to the NALIS Foundation's activities. She also attended the conference *Literary and Documentary Heritage in Bulgarian Libraries and Museums*, which was held by the Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of Library Studies, Scientific Informatics and Cultural Policies, in Sofia University. She gave a presentation on the NALIS Foundation work and activities in the *Ivan Vazov Public Library* in Plovdiv. It was followed by another presentation in September on the Fifth International Conference *Digital Presentation and Preservation of Cultural and Scientific Heritage*, where S. Aneva received an award for her paper *Cataloguing the Slavonic Manuscript Collection of the Plovdiv Public Library – MARC21 Template* in collaboration with A. Lessenska. In October the activities of the NALIS Foundation were presented at the 11-th National E-education Conference *Opportunities for E-education Development in Bulgaria*

VII. International projects

The **EuropeanaPhotography** project was completed successfully in January. [Evgeni Dimitrov gave a presentation](#) at the final project conference in Leuven, Belgium, where he shed some light on various aspects of the Bulgarian collection of 15 974 photographs provided by the NALIS Foundation.



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In March the NALIS Foundation signed a contract for participation in the project **North+ Digital Cultural Treasury: documenting, preservation and provision of public access to cultural heritage items in libraries, museums, archives and galleries in North and Central Bulgaria**. It is being funded by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism with the objective of developing a modern centre for digitisation, collaboration of cultural institutions, unification of the processes of digitisation and creation of full-text databases.

The initial stages of inclusion in the Horizon 2020 project **LISTEN ("Landscape-In-Sounds across European Nations")**, the preparation of required documents and the writing of the NALIS work package ended in May. Unfortunately, it was refused funding by the European Union, which was expressed in an official letter in November.

The NALIS Foundation continues its collaboration on the **World Digital Library (WDL)** project. Five of the books that were published on their website were reviewed and edited in 2015.

VIII. Management and administration

The NALIS Foundation **Board of Directors** met 10 times in 2015. Another 3 **Board of Founders** meetings were held in the reported period.

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

25 January 2016

Mila Kutsarova:
(Project Manager)