

# NALIS: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



FOUNDATION  
NATIONAL ACADEMIC  
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION  
SYSTEM

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Sofia, 21 February 2014



- ✓ The NALIS foundation is an **NGO**
- ✓ **Funded by** the America for Bulgaria Foundation
- ✓ **Advised by** the top managers of:
  - the Oxford (Bodleian) Libraries,
  - Harvard University Library,
  - New York Public Library
  - the US Library of Congress



## ✓ **Founders:**

- Central Library of BAS (CL-BAS),
- Sofia University (SU),
- American University in Bulgaria (AUBG)

✓ **Initial purpose:** Supporting the NALIS Project

✓ **NALIS Project's Author:** Dincho Krastev

✓ **First Phase:** June 2009 - June 2014



## ✓ **Main objectives of the NALIS Project:**

- Network of academic libraries
- Union library catalogue of the libraries involved - any library user to be able check the availability of a publication in member libraries' holdings
- Unification of the level of automation of the **academic libraries** - NALIS has integrated the incompatible formats and standards of the differing software platforms in all libraries, using MARC 21 and Ex Libris' products (so far Primo, Aleph, DigiTool, MetaLib/SFX)
- Increasing the level of quality



## ✓ Key achievements of the NALIS Project:

- [The NALIS Union Catalogue](#) – ca. 2,5 mil records
- [The Interlibrary Loan Module](#) – accessible directly through the NALIS catalogue; free ILL for NALIS members
- [Template for description of medieval manuscripts](#) compatible with MARC 21 and ALEPH
- 5 [MARC 21 papers](#) translated and published
- 3 [library dictionaries](#) created, published and updated



## ✓ **NALIS members**

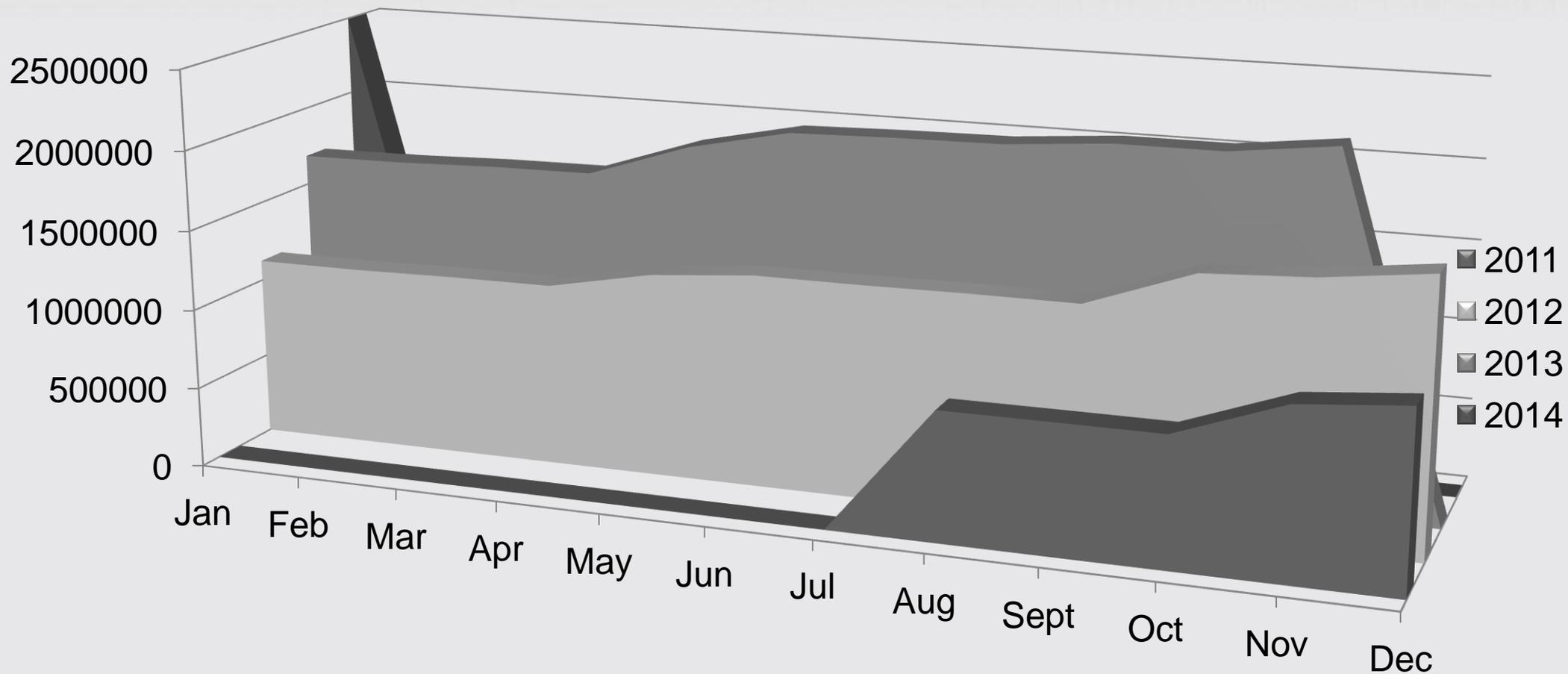
**30** libraries in Bulgaria + **1** foreign collaborate:

- 3 founding institutions
- Bulgarian National Library
- 26 associate members
  - 15 university libraries
  - 6 academic libraries
  - 5 large public libraries
- National and University Library of Kosova

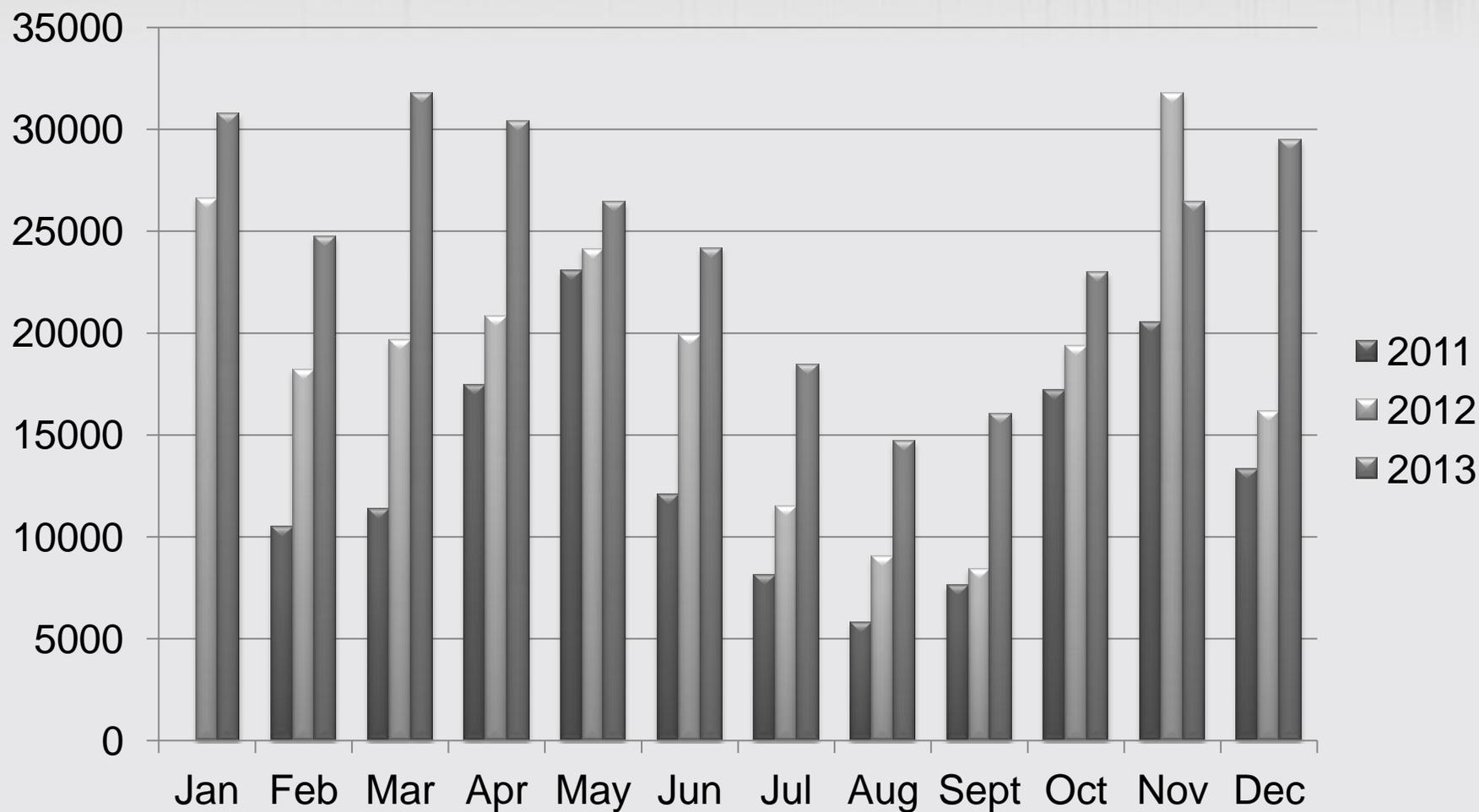


## ✓ Number of records in the NALIS Union Catalogue

2,497,942



✓ **Number of searches in the NALIS Union Catalogue** – average 25,000 per month

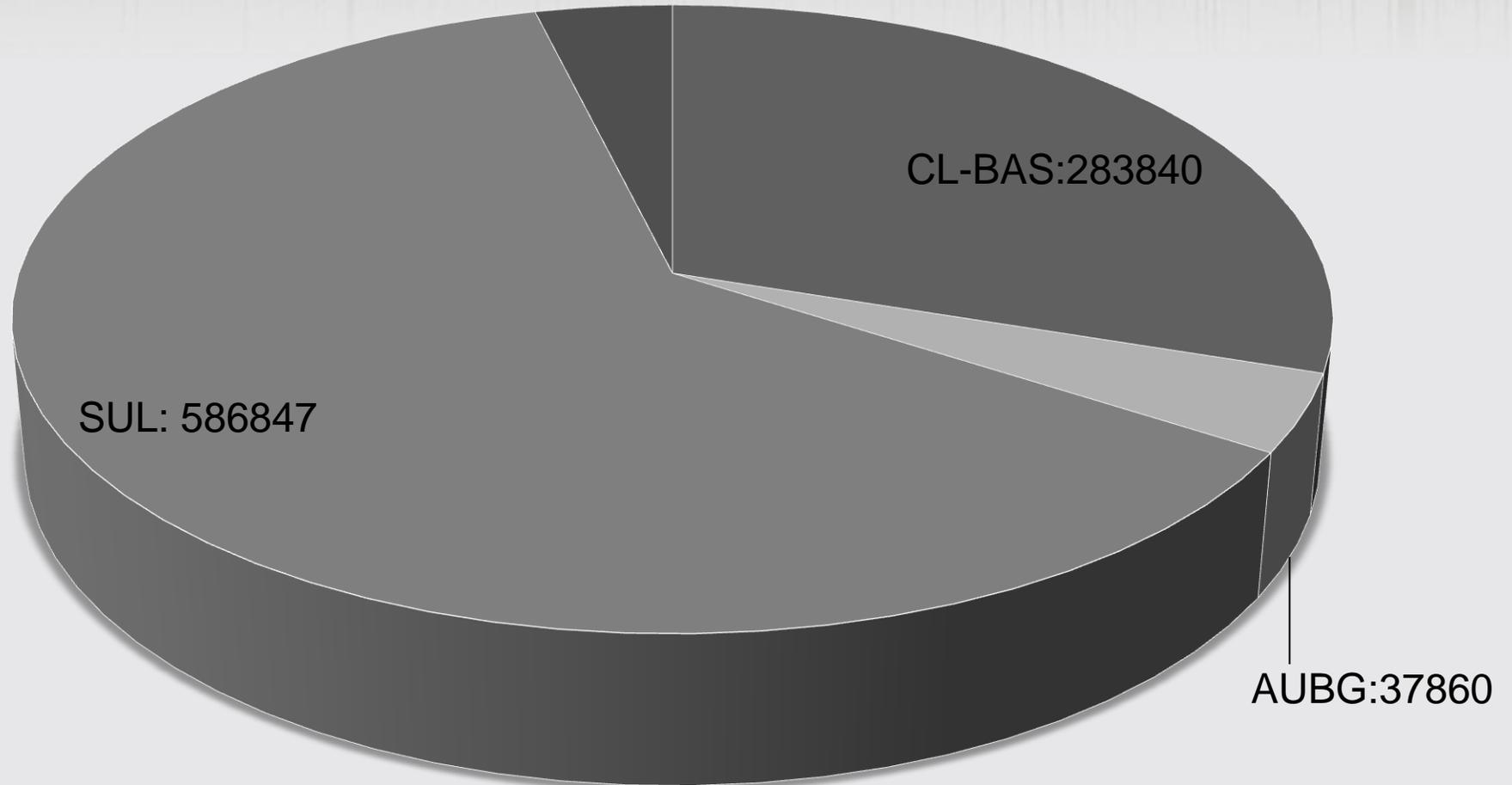




## ✓ Number of retroconverted records

945,035

NL: 36488  
(since June 2013)





## ✓ **Digital content**

ca. 12,000 items:

- NALIS Foundation – 10,362 photographs from more than 19 collections;
- CL-BAS – 1,092 early prints and a collection of letters;
- SUL – 858 early prints, archival materials, readings, theses;
- NL (starting Aug 2013) – 424 early prints, manuscripts;
- NBU – 173 titles for students.

- [Europeana Photography](#) – EU project for integration of artistically valuable photos of the years 1839–1939 in [Europeana](#):
  - 19 collaborators of NALIS
  - 10,362 photographs in the NALIS collections
  - 2 applications developed, further 2 started
- [World Digital Library](#) – US Library of Congress project for volunteering memory institutions worldwide
  - NALIS is going to integrate 400 digitised old printed books from the CL-BAS holdings



- National Strategy and Programme for Preservation and Access to the Literary Heritage of the Libraries in Bulgaria – initiated by the Bulgarian Library Information Association (BLIA) in 2012
- National Strategy for Digitisation of Bulgarian Cultural Heritage – initiated by the “13 Centuries Bulgaria” Fund in 2012



- **Enlargement of the library network and catalogue (within and outside Bulgaria)**
- **Exchange of best practices and know-hows, unification of standards, clouding**
- **Moving from technological to social impact**
- **Further development of the ILL module**
- **Investing in the accumulation of digital content**
- **Investing in controlled vocabularies (at a later stage)**



## ✓ **Why enlarging it?**

- Proven effectiveness, patrons love it;
- Software platform of the world leading libraries;
- Quicker and easier access to a reacher information pool;
- An international library catalogue is a challenge.

## ✓ **Why on the Balkans?**

- Because of the common culture and history;
- There is no such centre in the region;
- To foster Balkan studies, cultural and scientific collaboration.



- ✓ **What would my library benefit?**
  - Our patrons will simultaneously search the integrated library catalogues, digital collections as well as subscribed databases and periodicals of the libraries involved and have free access to all the bib data and digital content provided;
  - Popularisation;
  - No financial investments or further staff required;
  - Most advanced information services and access;
  - Opportunities to apply for EU funding.



## ✓ **Stages:**

1. *Integration of the **founding libraries** bib content – completed in 2010:*
  - 50 libraries of BAS – using ALEPH,
  - the 27 libraries of SU – using ALEPH
  - Panitza library of AUBG – using VTLS
2. *Integration of the founding libraries **retroconverted records** – ongoing*



### 3. *Integration of the **associate libraries** bib content –*

3 other LIS used by them so far:

- Q Series
- ABV (domestic)
- PrimaSoft (domestic)

### 4. *Integration of the bib records of **NL** – just started*

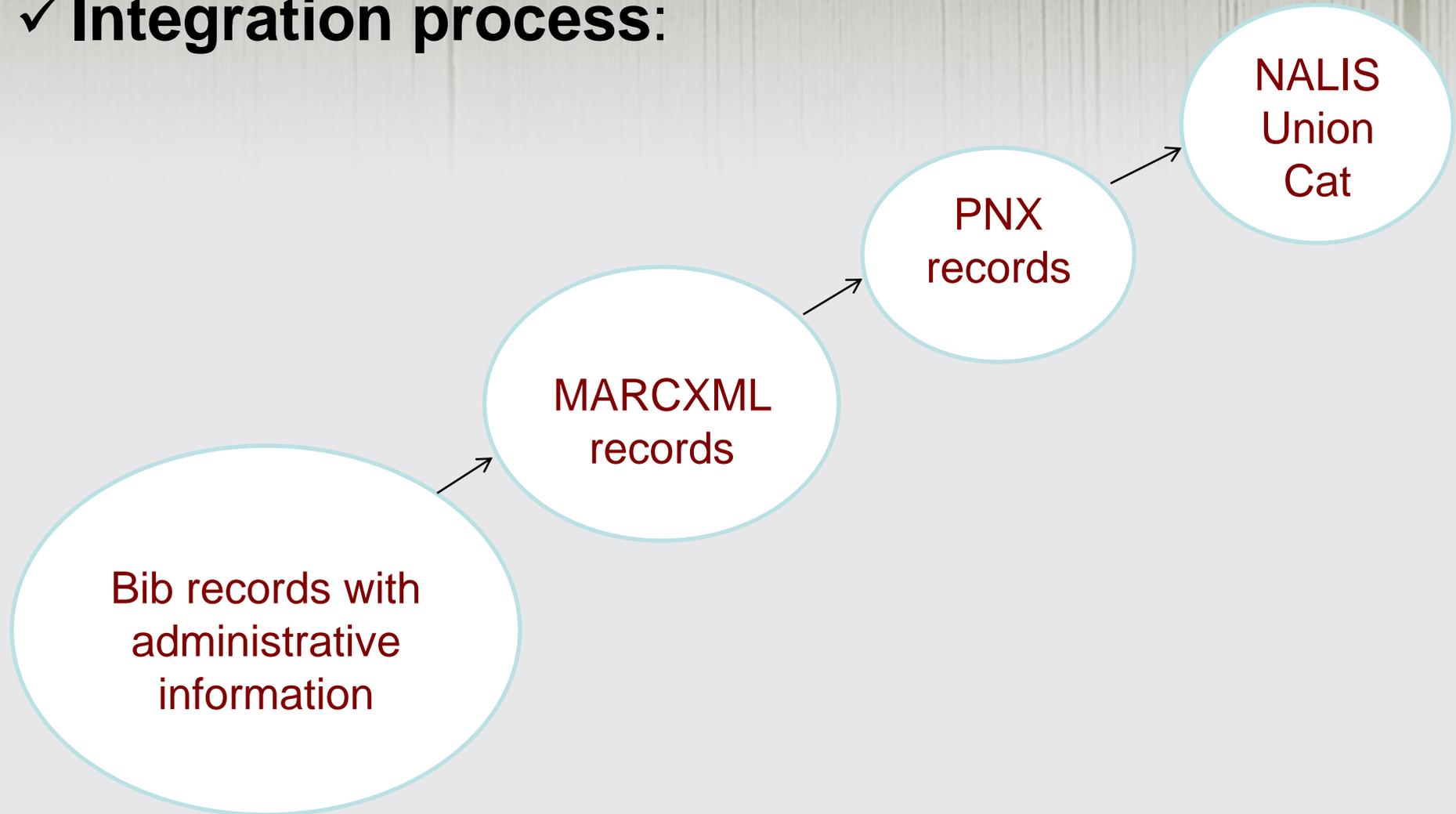
- COBISS – successfully tested

### 5. *Integration of **Balkan libraries** bib content – tests started*

- Carol I Central University Library of Bucharest successfully tested (on VUBIS)



## ✓ Integration process:





PNX records are:

- Normalised
- Deduplicated
- FRBRised (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records)
- Ranked according to usage



- The road ahead requires further expanding the ranks of institutions actively using modern information practices and contemporary standards introduced by NALIS.
- One cannot make intelligent and high-minded choices in the absence of a system and a reliable methodology to make sense of all the data available – **and that is exactly what NALIS offers**



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