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The challenge of creating a theoretical framework for library management in Finland, Romania and Sweden

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Abstract

This paper describes and discusses the challenge of creating a theoretical framework for library management in different countries, namely in Finland, Romania and Sweden. Management as an academic discipline is by its very nature diagnostic and interdisciplinary, but how can a researcher overcome the aspect of different cultures in different countries being expected to be found? In this paper the author presents reflections from a framework used in a recent study of these three countries (Mäntykangas 2018). The framework was compared with building blocks and is based on the idea of managers' various levels of responsibilities, the highest level being contributions to society.

Keywords: library, managers, framework

1. Introduction

The point of departure of this paper is a doctoral thesis on library managers in three countries, namely Finland, Romania and Sweden (Mäntykangas 2018). Conducting research in the domain of management is challenging and also tends to generate various subsidiary questions. These, while not considered the main research question, nevertheless need to be resolved before the logic of the study can become clear. In this paper I will revisit this type of subsidiary question after I have concluded the study.

Management, as the general frame of reference, connotes diagnosis and a focus on solutions taking as its point of departure problems generated in practice (Bruzelius & Skärvad 2012, Jensen & Sandström 2016 among others). The link between practice and theory is a much-discussed topic involving a wide diversity of views. The researchers' position is sometimes described as otherworldly, as if "on lofty heights". The practitioners, on the other hand, may be described as being deaf to the knowledge that the researchers have gleaned.

2. Theory and practice

There is an old saying that nothing is as practical as a good theory. A well-functioning theory helps give structure to situations and shows them to be governed by laws, and more predictable than they

might initially seem. Management as a field of study, however, is more complex. Management can be about a position in an organisation: it can be a designation of what supervisors do – management versus leadership. Management is a field of knowledge and an academic discipline; it is both practice and profession; and, management is about value-generating leadership and the governance of organisations (Bruzelius & Skärvad, 2012).

This complexity implies, in reality, that it is impossible to handle one aspect at a time on a timeline, but rather that in an event, for example, all aspects can play a part. To analyse and understand the event, the research must approach it from a multidisciplinary perspective. The challenge is obvious, in light of the volume of knowledge that different fields and subfields of knowledge produce annually. The researcher is faced with a choice between depth and breadth. The depth makes it possible to drill down into the event to reach its root. The breadth makes it possible to understand the dynamic of the event in question. This type of understanding is often referred to as "the big picture" (Chan Kim & Mauborgne 2005) connoting lofty heights or a helicopter perspective. The perspective shift or questioning of what is taken for granted is also part of a renewal process.

3. The libraries in the information society

The starting point of the present paper involves a focus on library managers. Libraries can be considered as living a quiet life as established institutions. The image of the library is still interwoven with symbolic values such as knowledge and silence. The libraries' responsibility in a democratic society, however, is predicated on their keeping step with development in the information society and consequently with the ongoing digital transformation. Library leadership is a key piece of the puzzle in this transformation, being highly invested in the aim of creating and recreating well-informed citizens.

A map of the information landscape is presented below. It provides a good illustration of the complexity of information provision in the information society. The libraries' role, too, is in flux, and library supervisors' role is increasing in importance as well as in responsibility and the so frequently mentioned complexity.

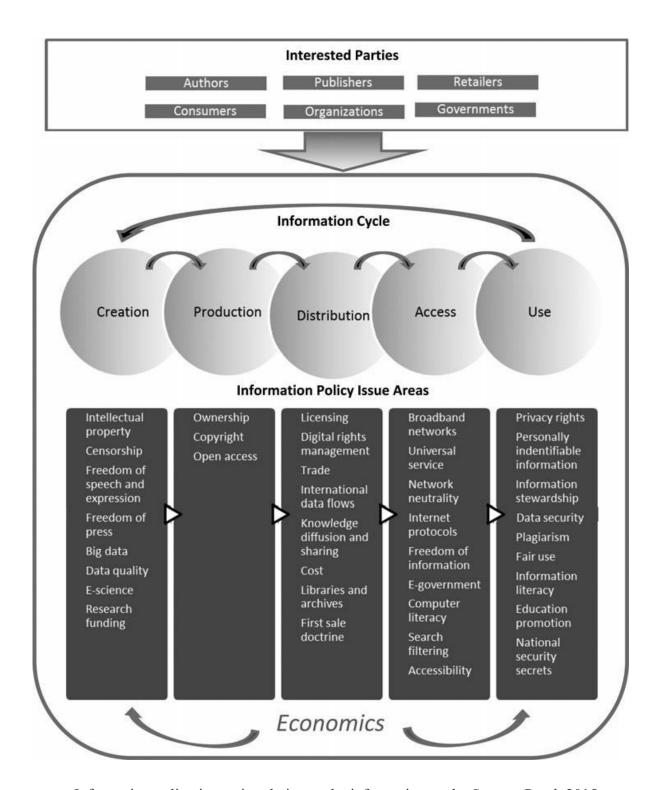


Figure. Information policy issues in relation to the information cycle. Source: Pasek 2015.

Digitalization is a force for change – perhaps the greatest such force of our time (Ilmarinen & Koskela, p. 13). It does not change things in a single country but rather in all countries. Granted, there can also be differences in how far different counties have progressed in terms of strategies and applications. Ilmarinen and Koskela (p. 14) point out that one person's threat is another's opportunity. From this one might easily associate to competition between companies and competition between countries. Public libraries are a counterweight to such competition in their dedication to offering universal access to information and knowledge. Similarly, the digitalization and free flow of library holdings in a network of libraries is a form of international cooperative

assistance. Moreover, language barriers (for example, between Finland and Romania) or different technological issues can naturally impede the ability to enjoy the benefits of this – but not entirely. The idea is to share library holdings with many more parties.

3.1. Libraries a symbol of peace?

The study on which these parallel reflections are based (Mäntykangas 2018) deals with the topic of public libraries. Management as practice is often associated with the private sector, corporations and the above-mentioned competition.

Public libraries are a part of a country's (knowledge) economy. They receive funding and are under an obligation to use this funding for the achievement of certain goals. Given that their primary mission is to provide universal access in the name of democracy (Mäntykangas 2018) we are inspired to reflect that libraries also represent peace: in light of their mission they can of course be considered peaceful organisations. Could they not also be a symbol of peace, similar to the peace dove? Libraries are found throughout Finland, Romania, Sweden, and the world generally. Generally speaking, it is easy to recognize a library anywhere.

Friction can arise between management, being associated with the private sector, and the public libraries' mission. Folger & Salvador (2008), for example, posed an interesting question regarding the selfishness of management theories in their article "Is Management Theory Too 'Self-ish'?" A focus on winning (well-informed citizens), however, need not be selfish. It can also be a matter of survival and sustainable development in the service of younger and future generations. It is reasonable that public libraries' management theory focuses on sharing its winnings, its profit, with everyone. This can also render their significance somewhat unclear. There are no immediate monetary gains to report at the end of the operating year. The gains are to be found with the patrons.

The role of library supervisor includes being a manager. Library supervisors are driven by the desire to realize a vision in which – or rather the conviction, that – well-informed citizens are essential in an increasingly globalized world. It is a moral and ethical driving force. It does not, however, exclude the need for knowledge about management and strategic thinking in the information society, in the increasingly globalized world. The terms "information-rich" and "information-poor" have become an integral feature of information society discourse since the 1970s. Still, the techniques by which these parameters might be measured are not yet fully developed (Yu et al. 2016). These terms have been criticized for seeming to refer to socio-economic factors, but this is not necessarily the case. The development of information technology has led to a situation in which a large part of the world's population has access to portable computers or to the Internet (for example, at Internet cafés or digital libraries). Information technology is also seen as a democratizing force.

3.2. Public and private libraries: case example

Hong Ma (2017) describes academic libraries' mission as essentially unchanged, but claims that "the way that libraries are operating is changing." There are new areas of focus, such as digitizing and providing access to unique local collections, organizing institutional repositories, and so one. The process is occurring in the complex environment as described by Hong Ma. In a way this

argumentation mainly recalls in-house services, and a corporation's need to use intellectual capital within itself as in my understanding.

A comparison of a corporate library with academic libraries made by an information specialist at a private corporation revealed several similarities between the two libraries. The paper was written for and presented at a study visit to a company's department for competitive intelligence (Magnusson 2018):

Table. Differences and similarities between academic libraries and a corporate library. Created by Elinor Magnusson 2018.

Academic libraries	Corporate "library" (no physical library)				
Clear target group with the same, specific goal	Clear target group with the same, specific goa				
Procure databases	Procure databases				
Training in databases / educating users in how to	Training in databases / educating users in how				
access journal articles through our licenses with	to access journal articles through our licenses				
publishers	with publishers				
Walk-in users	Interaction with users is mainly by email /				
	Skype – No physical library				
Academic licenses to subscriptions/journal	Licenses with pre-paid articles				
articles					

As noted in this case, there are several similarities between the two types of libraries. The differences in the holdings and the way the tasks are conducted are mainly that unlike university libraries a corporate library has no walk-in users; that unlike university libraries a corporate library has no physical library space; and that while university libraries have licenses to subscriptions/journal articles, a corporate library has licences for pre-paid articles.

The comparison between a public library and the corporate library here shows several differences:

Table. Differences and similarities between public library and corporate "library". Created by Elinor Magnusson, 2018.

Public library	Corporate "library"					
Target group consists of all citizens , no	Clear target group with the same goal					
common goal						
Fiction and facts	Scientific scope					
Walk-in users, public meeting point	No walk-in users, target group consists of					
	internal personnel					
Some training, often driven by organizations,	Internal trainings, new employees					
e.g., digital skills for elderly						
Newspapers/magazines, both print and digital	Minimal access to newspapers/magazines					

So while there are differences between the two library types, there are also several similarities. Management as theory can generally be applied to both, with certain modifications that can be considered local adaptations or theory localizations, to put it boldly (Mäntykangas 2018).

4. Concluding remarks

In this paper, the need arises for real-time comparisons as a method of investigating phenomena in the wake of globalisation. Digitalization creates the infrastructure for information transmission that takes place in real time across borders. Hernon (2013), defining the perspective of global (library) leadership, referred to "the capacity to function across national cultures". The mission of the public libraries in Finland, Romania and Sweden is based on the idea of a universal right to knowledge and information (Mäntykangas 2018). Enabling libraries to fulfil their strategic potential in the information society, however, will require ever more collaboration between countries and between different types of libraries (Banciu 2018). The idea of looking at public libraries as creators of peace, however, is one that will require deeper consideration.

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The main directions for creating a repository in the institution of higher education of the Republic of Belarus

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Abstract: The issues of creating an institutional repository in the institution of higher education of the Republic of Belarus are considered. The experience of the scientific library of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov has been consecrated in providing open access to the organization's publications.

Keywords: institution of higher education, VSU named after P.M. Masherov, institutional repository, open electronic archive, repository rating, university library, Republic of Belarus, Digital Library

1. Repositories in the Republic of Belarus

The introduction of computer technology into the practice of libraries at the end of the 20th century marked the beginning of a new era in the development of the library business. Computerization of library processes allowed libraries to fill traditional forms of library services with new content and new features. For example, user service is provided through an electronic library card, access to the electronic catalog is provided both in the walls of the library and through the organization's website, electronic delivery of documents is offered, virtual book exhibitions, booktrusters, etc. are created.

In the first decade of the 21st century, the libraries of institutions of higher education in the Republic of Belarus are actively developing a new direction of work - creating full-text databases and providing access to them for users. Subsequently, experience in this area allowed libraries to join the initiative of open access to scientific information through the creation of an institutional repository.

Institutional repository (IR) is an electronic archive for long-term storage, accumulation and ensuring long-term and reliable open access to the results of scientific research conducted in the institution [1].

In the Republic of Belarus, the first steps were taken by the employees of the Fundamental Library of the Belarusian State University (BSU). September 25, 2009 in the registry of open access repositories Registry of Open Access Repositories registered Digital Library of the Belarusian State University.

In 2012, on the basis of the BSU, the staff of the Scientific Library of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov received training courses on the topic "Creation and maintenance of the electronic library of higher education institutions".

In April 2014, the repository of the educational institution Vitebsk State University named after P.M. Masherov was registered. It is based on the DSpace platform software, which was chosen with the following parameters: open source code, free, indexed by the Google search engine, authoritative developer - Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

It should be noted that the relevance, and at the same time, little experience in the creation and operation of the institutional repository of library staff of institutions of higher education, showed the need for organizing a training event at which one could share their achievements and difficulties encountered.

On the initiative of the scientific library of the VSU named after P.M..Masherov on its base in December 2014 a republican seminar was held on the topic "Creating an institutional repository of open access in a higher education institution".

This seminar was attended by directors and staff of the libraries of higher education institutions of Belarus: Belarusian State University, Municipal State University named after AA Kuleshov, Belarusian-Russian University, Gomel State Medical University, Vitebsk State Technological University, Vitebsk State Academy of Veterinary Medicine, Vitebsk Medical University, Polotsk State University.

Deans, heads of departments, teachers of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov were invited to the seminar.

The creation of an institutional repository is a joint activity of teachers and staff of the library of an institution of higher education. Only in this case this direction of work will be most productive. This idea was repeatedly heard by the speakers at the seminar.

It should be noted that the seminar participants raised a number of issues related to the organization of the electronic archive, approaches to the placement of materials and ensuring their safety. Do not stay away from the discussion and copyright issues.

All seminar participants agreed unanimously that the creation of an institutional repository is an important direction for the development of a modern university. By providing open access to the results of scientific research conducted in the institution, the university promotes an increase in the citation index of the work of its employees, the improvement of the university's position in national and international rankings, upgrading the status of the university and its image, and, importantly, competitiveness in the educational services market [2, p. 36-37].

In 2015, the staff of the scientific library of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov took part in the republican seminar "Open Access Repositories in Belarus: opportunities for integration and joint use". In the course of this event, a new vector for the development of repositories was planned, the essence of which was to unite the information resources of the open repositories of libraries of Belarusian institutions of higher education in order to increase the visibility of participants' repositories for search engines [3].

In February 2017, the presentation of the OAI-Belarus project took place at the republican seminar "Repositories of Open Access of Belarusian Universities: Current Status and Prospects for Development". Technical aspects of implementation". It noted that nine repositories of institutions of higher education in Belarus have already united in this project. The results of the work were summed up and further prospects were outlined [4].

The Belarusian library community is trying to work out a common policy of maintaining the repository, to support the beginners and to indicate the path of further development for those who have experience in this direction.

2. The repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov

As of 31.01. 2018 in the Registry of Open Access Repositories 22 repositories of institutions of higher education of the Republic of Belarus are registered.

In our report, we will consider in more detail the experience of creating a repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov.

As noted above, the repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov was established in 2014. In 2016, the International Center ISSN in accordance with the international standard ISO 3297: 2007, he was assigned an international standard number. In 2017 he became a participant of the OAI-Belarus project.

In the International Ranking of Webometrics Ranking Web of Repositories during his time of existence, he held the following positions (Table 1).

Year	2014	2015		2016		2017	
Month	July	January	July	January	July	January	July
Position in the world	1344	1099	1031	864	1087	810	714
Position in the	9	5	6	5	5	5	3
Republic of Belarus							

Table 1 - Position in the Webometrics Ranking Web of Repositories for 2014-2017.

Thus, the repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov in 2016 held the 5th position among 22 repositories of higher education institutions of Belarus, and by the end of 2017 it reached the third position.

The staff of the scientific library has always responsibly approached the issues of maintaining the repository: the operative placement of new materials, the expansion of the nomenclature of collections, the improvement in the design of the presentation of materials, the expansion of search queries, etc.

In 2016, in the social network "VKontakte" was created a page of the institutional repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov, which refers to the official page of the library in this network. The aim pursued by us is the promotion among the users of scientific publications, educational materials, rare editions from the fund of the scientific library.

According to statistics Google Analyties for 2017 the repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov was visited by 49187 users, 257747 pages were viewed by them.

To date, the following collections have been identified in the repository: "Dissertations and Abstracts of Dissertations", "Materials of Congresses, Conferences, Seminars", "Collections of Scientific Articles", "Periodicals of the University", "Faculty of the University", "Scientific Library", "P.M. Masherov in the press."

The collection "Dissertations and Abstracts of Dissertations" is by far the smallest - 4 documents. The library plans to digitize and post 3372 abstracts of dissertations that are in the library's fund.

The collection "Materials of congresses, conferences, seminars" contains 6017 documents. This collection contains materials of congresses - 125 documents; international conferences - 3136 documents; regional conferences - 2569 documents; republican conferences - 165 documents; student conferences - 22 documents. All the above-mentioned events were held on the basis of the VSU named after PM Masherov.

Collection "Collections of Scientific Articles" contains 270 digitized scientific articles of university teachers, published in the public domain and named after PM Masherov. Chronological coverage of the collection from 2010 to 2018.

The collection "Periodicals of the University" contains 3626 documents. It contains the materials of the publications of scientific periodicals of the Voronezh State University named after PM Masherov: "Vesnik Vitsebskaga dzyarzhaÿnaga ÿiniversiteta" - 2,143 documents, chronological coverage since 1996; "Art and Culture" - 500 documents, chronological coverage since 2011; "Right. Economy. Psychology "- 124 documents, chronological coverage since 2015; "Modern education of Vitebsk region" 307 documents, chronological coverage from 2013; "Scientific notes of the Ural State University named after P.M. Masherov "- 552 documents, the chronological coverage since 2002.

The collection "Faculties of the University" contains scientific publications and educational materials of the following faculties of the VSU named after PM Masherov: "Biological Faculty" -

313 documents; "Historical Faculty" - 218 documents; "Mathematical Faculty" - 149 documents; "Faculty of Foreigners' Training" - 30 documents; "Pedagogical Faculty" - 219 documents; "Faculty of Social Pedagogy and Psychology" - 204 documents; "Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports" - 166 documents; "Philological Faculty" - 288 documents; "The Art and Graphic Department" - 117 documents; "Law Faculty" - 152 documents; "Faculty of retraining of IPC and PC staff" - 42 documents.

The collection "Scientific Library" contains 204 documents on various branches of knowledge and types of publications. The main part of the collection consists of 192 digitized editions from a rare library fund. Chronological coverage from the early 19th century to the early 20th century.

As an example, we want to draw your attention to the book by the French author Sh. Szenobos "The Political History of Modern Europe (1814-1896)", published in 1901 in St. Petersburg. One of the sections of chapter 20 of this work is devoted to the history of the formation of the state of Romania.

It should be noted that in addition to rare publications in the collection of the "Scientific Library" the articles of the staff of the scientific library and the bibliographic tools created by them are reflected.

The collection "VGU named after PM Masherov in the press" contains 405 documents. It reflects the materials published in the university newspaper "We and the Hour", which, as a rule, are devoted to the historical past and the present university.

As of February 15, 2013 11,763 documents have been placed in the repository.

It should be noted that the placement of scientific publications of university employees in the public domain promotes their citation, which affects the citation index, which is widely used around the world to assess the work of researchers and research teams.

Thus, the presence of an institutional repository in the institution of higher education contributes to the integration of research scientists into the global scientific community, the growth of the authority and significance of the organization.

In our opinion, the open access repository can be a platform for cooperation of libraries not only within the republic, but also beyond its borders. We hope that in the future we will be able to identify mutually beneficial projects for the scientific library of the VSU named after PM Masherov and the library of the University "Luciana Blago" in Sibiu.

The library can provide information support for the proposed projects, which will be implemented by our universities. For example, the joint creation of thematic full-text collections, bibliographic or factual databases. And also the library is ready to consider all proposals for cooperation.

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Formation of information competence in the conditions of library educational environment

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Abstract:

In the formation of information competence, the primary role is played by a «specially designed educational environment based on the interaction of the library and the educational institution». Therefore, each library has the opportunity to prepare an information-competent personality, even without resorting to the development of all sorts of new teaching methods for the formation information competence, but improving its educational environment, taking into account the need to raise this level. And, despite the fact that the process of creating an environment that will nourish information competence longer than the development of a new teaching methodology, the results will be more ambitious, since the environmental methodology is synergistic.

Keywords: information competence, library educational environment, educational resources, information requirements, scientific research.

The information competence(IC) of the higher education student, futurespecialist, and the process of its formation are discussed in a rather large number of researches: A.V. Khutorskoy, I.A. Zimnyaya, O.B. Zaitseva, N.A. Voinova, M.A. Holodnaya, Yu.I. Askerko, D.V. Golubin, A.V. Goferberg, etc. Analysis of various approaches to the interpretation of this concept shows that it is not uniquely defined today. Information competence is considered, on the one hand, as a component of professional competence (G.B.Golub, E.F.Morkovina, K.V. Shaposhnikova), and on the other hand, as a component of the personal information culture (G.B. Parshukova, N.V. Zbarovskaya, N.I. Gendina). From the position of information competence as the professional training component of a modern university graduate (a position supported by our research), one can speak of information competence as a readiness for self-education, the ability to identify gaps in their knowledge and skills in solving a new problem, to assess the need for information for one's own activities, carry out information retrieval and retrieve information from various sources on any media. All this allows you to flexibly change your professional qualifications and, independently master the knowledge and skills necessary to solve the tasks. Also here one can note the readiness

to use information resources, ability to make reasoned conclusions, use information to plan and carry out their activities, which allows a person to make informed decisions based on critically comprehended information [3].

The analysis of instructional and methodological materials (curriculum documents, manual for graduate students on the basics of information culture) showed that the content of information competence and the range of knowledge included in it were thoroughly studied by researchers. A number of works are devoted to the consideration of various techniques used by practical librarians in the formation of information competence. But the trend of recent years is the outflow of library users, including university students, which indicates a lack of understanding of the role and place of he modern library in creating an individual user information field. This fact is a direct proof that existing approaches to the formation of information competence do not bring proper results. Astudent, a future specialist, should consider the library as one of the priority channels of access to relevant and reliable information necessary for his successful educational and, in the future, professional activities. Therefore, libraries should seek new methodological approaches that would help to identify alternative ways to solve the current problem. At this stage, we propose to address the provisions of the environmental approach and consider it as a methodological basis forformation the information competence of the future specialist, since they fully reflect the practical aspects of the functioning of the modern library of institutions of higher education.

According to A.A. Temerbekova, the environmental approach is appeared, first of all, in connection with the consequences of the influence of the environment, and also in connection with the motivation of information activity as a consequence of certain, including information requirements [6]. Drawing on the provisions of the environmental approach at the adaptation stage (when the student visits the university library for the first time) it is important to ensure that the user ceases to perceive the conditions of the library educational environment as being rigidly imposed from outside and not taking into account his individual information requirements. The possibility and necessity to continuously pursue a goal-seeking choice, personally meaningful goal-setting, the manifestation of subjectivity in the circumstances of educational activity, the non-linearity of the movement to the result in conditions of multifactorial interaction with the environment, becoming everyday practice, in fact, are characteristic features of the environmental approach by opinion of A.G. Timofeeva [5]. That is, the management of information and educational resources and the effectiveness of educational activities are conditioned by the motivation generated by the application of the environmental approach. The interaction of the library user separately with each of the elements of the environment cannot give those results that interaction with the environment as a system. As a systemic result of such interaction, one can call the user's understanding of his ability not only to use the potential of the environment, but also to influence it, which motivates him and raises the level of satisfaction. Thus, the reflexive activity is included in the canon of the environmental approach: the comprehension and analysis of library content in comparison with alternative sources of information. And, consequently, the library educational environment becomes a visual tool of competent training or the formation of information competence.

In the formation of information competence, the primary role is played by a «specially designed educational environment based on the interaction of the library and the educational institution» [1]. Therefore, each library has the opportunity to prepare an information-competent

personality, even without resorting to the development of all sorts of new teaching methods for the formation IC, but improving its educational environment, taking into account the need to raise this level. Here we can talk about the system of visual user orientation, the systematic identification of their information requirements, skills; disclosure of funds; organization of service areas; complex measures for information support, developed taking into account the saturation of the library with various educational resources. It is possible to evolve the intellectual potential of the individual in the library through independent search, development and use of the necessary information resources, which requires the organization of comfortable conditions for joint activities of both the user and the librarian. In real conditions, the library of the modern university has a set of tools for developing a system of student interaction both with traditional reference and information funds and with complex reference-providing information systemand network information resources. And, despite the fact that the process of creating an environment that will nourish information competence longer than the development of a new teaching methodology, the results will be more ambitious, since the environmental methodology is synergistic.

The main purpose of the library educational environment (LEE) is to create conditions for improving the quality of education, access to education, ensuring the effectiveness of the educational process and the competitiveness of higher education institutions through the means of organizing proper information support. According to V.A. Krasilnikov«the environment must be continuously changing, taking into account the individual characteristics of the user, the range of his interests, the process of independent search, facilitate the formulation of tasks and the search for ways to solve them, ensure the process of continuous growth of a person in professional and general education» [4]. In the course of the theoretical study, we have identified the structural and functional components of the LEE, the proper organization of which will allow us to create the proper pedagogical conditions for the library to realize its educational function and to form an information-competent personality. Such an organization implies that the environment should be built taking into account the educational goals and programs of the institution in whose structure the library is located, and also to focus on the information requirements of its users. Of great importance is not only the content aspect, but also the implementation of the educational requirements of users, since they were identified as one of the system-forming structural and functional elements of such environment.

For example informationrequirements of university students are including: 1) the most comfortable conditions for remote work with the resources of the library; 2) educational materials in electronic form; 3) information for passing the exams and assessments (in this case only a part of the document is of interest); 4) information for preparation for the state exam and qualifying research paper; 5) information about which books are on hand, which books were taken earlier and to which electronic documents were accessed; 6) access to change or addition of their personal data; 7) a list of new disciplines for the year and a list of education materials on them; 8) the ability to make an author's assembly of text snippetsfrom existing books [1].

In the context of the multiformat information resources, the development of electronic libraries and the reform of the higher education system, modern physical media and virtual environments are combined in modern LEE, which again indicates the growing role of information competence, which is not only a component of successful teaching and learning, but also an integrating element of a single information and educational environment (SIEE), associated with the

individual characteristics of man. At the same time, information competence is not in some fixed state, but develops and is updated with the development of the environment, i.e. the process of its formation is carried out.

The process of formation of information competence is continuous, in which cognitive, motivational-value, technical-technological, communicative and reflective components are combined; a set of interacting principles; organizational and pedagogical conditions; forms and methods of interaction of subjects and objects (library staff and users, who can act as subjects and as objects of library interaction).

Self-education and personal development of the individual in the conditions of the library educational environment presuppose the formation of personality qualities that allow to effectively operate in modern sociocultural conditions, such as psychological flexibility, the ability to process and selectively absorb new information, the ability to adapt to changing economic, social and psychological conditions in society, state, in personal destiny.

The quality of the library educational environment can be determined on the basis of whether it meets the needs of the user, and also the extent to which the LEE realizes the goals and tasks that stand before the library in general and the institution of higher education in whose structure it is located. The first criterion for assessing the quality of the library educational environment can be defined as the degree of user satisfaction with those products and services that are implemented in the existing environment. Also, the library educational environment can be assessed from the point of view of the functional effectiveness of its structural and functional components and the design of the prospects for their development. As such components we have allocated information and educational resources; organizational and administrative structures and communication means.

The impact of the environment on the user can be determined by how his behavior changed during interaction with the environment: did he learn to do something from what he did not know before? When studying the impact, you can focus on improving the user's perception of the environment. But from our point of view, it is most important to trace the changes in his behavior and the acquisition of new skills and abilities.

The inciting factors in studying LEE are the rapid growth in the technical equipment of students and the elimination of the main contradiction – the availability of information resources accumulated by the library, which are not claimed by users.

We conducted scientific research aimed at revealing the satisfaction of modern users of the educational environment created in the library and the way in which it influences the formation of the information competence of the students.

To the dimensional characters of the environment, which can be considered as the criteria for the satisfaction of the LEE, we attributed: – activity: opportunities for the cognitive and transformative activity of the users; – organizational: spatial characteristics of the environment, the quality of the organization of the environment, subsidiarity, sequence in the organization of its structural and functional parts, precision and clarity of management; – informational: availability of resources for self-development and self-management of the person during stay in the environment; –dedicated training of librarians and their competence.

The research supposal is formulated as follows. The modern student prefers the global network Internet as an alternative source of information, therefore, despite the fact that libraries of higher education institutions are in a better position than public libraries, since each student is a potential user, attendance in them also falls. Therefore, the library needs to look for new ways and approaches for organizing and optimizing the educational environment in order to preserve the contingent, as attracting readers is an important factor in the viability, success and sustainability of the library development.

A questionnaire was selected as a method of research. A single questionnaire was prepared for the students of the Faculty of Mechanics and Technology of the Belarusian National Technical University (BNTU) and Vitebsk State Technological University (VSTU) (standard questionnaire technology) for the survey. Statistical processing of the data revealed the following results, expressed in quantitative relationships and allowed to draw a number of conclusions. The main purpose of visiting the library of higher education institution remains traditional: preparation for training. This confirms the legitimacy of considering information and educational resources as one of the key components of the educational environment of the library. With respect to information sources, the Internet is the first place for a modern user. The lack of understanding of the importance of using special kinds of documents (patent, normative and technical documents, industrial catalogs, etc.) during the training testifies that students are little familiar with the structure of the industry document flow. These results suggest that the library from the position of the main information center should not only organize access to its resources, but also create certain knowledge among users that will help understand the structure of modern information and educational resources, as well as show the advantages of using them in comparison with other sources of information.

The insufficient formation of practical skills in the implementation of information retrieval activity by modern students has been identified, since they prefer to use adapted information that is in the public domain on the Internet. The percentage of those who can search in the library databases of turned out to be less than to search in the electronic catalog (EC). This indicates that librarians pay less attention to this topic in both information culture classes and in the process of consulting work. This is also confirmed by the analysis of the curriculum in the discipline «Information Culture». And as a result, students are afraid to refer to this relatively new product of the library. The interrogation revealed a low percentage of calls to the databases of the library and a lack of skills to work with them. This shows that the library needs to carry out more extensive work to popularize this information resource. There is also the assumption that the majority of respondents do not have long-term information requests, and they do not need constant information support from the library in the form of electronic mailing. The question of the web representation of the library, in which the library site was studied, showed that the most popular resource is the electronic library (information repository). Such sections as virtual reference and virtual exhibitionare practically unclaimed. Also the development of the web 2.0 technology does not bring the expected results to the library. Basically, users are interested in information of news and reference nature. Advertising and consulting, thanks to which the library can position itself in the information market, remains unclaimed.

In terms of information competence in general, the research revealed the following gaps: insufficient knowledge of the search methodology in library catalogs, using computer-aided

procedures, ignorance of the rules of bibliographic entry of scientific work and methods of analytical and synthetic information processing. These weaknesses should be eliminated by the library, as this is its educational function, which is considered compulsory for the university library. The library can continue to focus on information culture classes, and can move to a qualitatively new level: by all means of the library educational environment, it is necessary to form an information competent person. As positive results of the research, we noted the following: 1) students do not refuse printed publications, preferring to use both traditional and electronic resources in parallel. It was suggested that there is an electronic analogue of the document in case of insufficient copy of the printed publication in the library's fund; 2) the majority of respondents feel comfortable enough in the modern information and educational environment and are able to satisfy their information requirements. But at the same time, this result also indicates that the library should take certain measures to become a necessary link in the implementation of educational activities by modern users.

Reluctance to apply for information in the library can be explained by the fact that students are not confident enough in the LEE. In terms of comfort, the following wishes were expressed: access to all types of information in one place, separate workplaces, the availability of recreation areas. At the same time, workplaces must be automated and with access to the library's databases and the Internet. Open access to the library fund is welcome. All this shows that the library should move away from the usual conservatism and organize service areas in the light of reader preferences. The library should be convenient and comfortable, above all, the users. The material and technical base also needs to be improved.

The attitude to the library on the part of the users has changed. First of all, they see in ita service institute, access to the resources of which must be organized twenty-four-hour. Therefore, when working development plans in order to improve the quality of services and attract users, to modernize traditional forms and methods of work that maximize the satisfaction of information requirements, the library should be guided by these results.

Based on the results of the above, we are working on the development of a number of activities that include measures to attract readers and Internet users to the library, and proposals to increase the level of information competence of students through the library educational environment. For this purpose, work is planned in four main directions:

- use of the remote work with readers and distributed information technology through the workstation (smart-library), which will provide the opportunity to flexibly manage information services and organize personalized services: by categories, interests and requests of users;
- reorganization of the system of user services and storage of funds, providing for the creation of a single reading room with a single point of issue of documents; comfortable service areas with a Wi-Fi network; automated workplaces for working with electronic resources; exhibition area (exhibitions of new acquisitions, thematic exhibitions, exhibitions of scientific achievements, including in virtual format);
- -work to improve the skills of library staff engaged in organizing the library educational environment and carrying out the formation of information competence of library users

- -getting of new knowledge and skills by specialists in the use of modern technologies and information and educational resources in information and library services;
- Internet marketing (the site of the library as a marketing platform for attracting users: adaptive design, adaptive content, real-time marketing, mobile search, storytelling, Online Value Proposition).

Thus, the above-mentioned measures should contribute to the formation of users' understanding that the library educational environment is the most optimal for the creation and use of information resources, the development of information and communication technologies, the employment of new technological platforms for implementing modern methods of providing, processing and structuring information.

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Efforts for the digitisation of the books in Romania (2008-2018).

Challenges and achievements

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Abstract: The books modelled in time consciousness and mentalities, presenting a continuously increasing cultural, social and national function. In the same time, the books have economical function, due to the fact that the editing formulas, the costs, the destinations and the priority of the contents are aspects with a rapid dynamics. The 21st century is the time when the effort of the Romanian historical research makes visible efforts to synchronise with the tendencies of the EU research, through researches concretised in working instruments, destined to support the resize and the fluidisation of the knowledge, integrating it into a dynamic scientific circuit. These efforts, either belonging to a singular researcher or to a collective of researchers, target at the present time ambitious aims related not only to the scientific investigation of the books, but also to the development of strategies meant to ensure the rapid access to information. Thus, the digitisation of the cultural and scientific values as preservation of the identity and support for future researches represents only one cultural strategy, in full progress in Romania.

Important roles in this matter have the Directives and the Recommendations of the European Union, who initiated and supported a common policy for the entire European space, including projects financed directly by the European Commission, e.g. *Europeana* Digital Library in 2008. The Romanian specialised institutions answered to these directives and recommendations, thus, starting with 2008, there is in Romania an institutionalised effort for the preservation and recovery of the Romanian patrimony through digitisation. The present study aims, at a decade distance from the beginning of the institutionalised efforts for the digitalization of the patrimony, to analyse the concrete achievements and the Romanian level in the digitisation of the cultural patrimony, especially the digitisation of the books.

Keywords: digital library, book, digitisation national program

The books modelled in time consciousness and mentalities, presenting a continuously increasing cultural, social and national function. In the same time, the books have economical function, due to the fact that the editing formulas, the costs, the destinations and the priority of the contents are aspects with a rapid dynamics. The 21st century is the time when the effort of the Romanian historical research makes visible efforts to synchronise with the tendencies of the EU research, through researches concretised in working instruments, destined to support the resize and the fluidisation of the knowledge, integrating it into a dynamic scientific circuit. These efforts, either belonging to a singular researcher or to a collective of researchers, target at the present time ambitious aims related not only to the scientific investigation of the books, but also to the development of strategies meant to ensure the rapid access to information. Thus, the digitisation of the cultural and scientific values as preservation of the identity and support for future researches represents only one cultural strategy, in full progress in Romania. Inside the *Sectorial strategy in the field of culture and of the national patrimony of Romania*

for 2014-2020, the book represents, next to the print press, a cultural field by itself, according to the framework elaborated by the European Statistical System Network on Culture¹.

The present study aims, at a decade distance from the beginning of the institutionalised efforts for the digitalization of the patrimony and in the context when 2018 was declared the year of the cultural patrimony in Europe², to analyse the Romanian level and the steps in the process, and the most visible achievements in the digitisation of the cultural patrimony, especially the digitisation of the books. We may say that digitisation started a new course, as revolutionary as the one belonging to Johannes Gutenberg at the middle of the 15th century, a no-return course³.

The European context of the digitisation process

The European context had an important role in the initiation, the institutionalisation and the regulation of the framework for the digitisation process in Romania. The Directives and the Recommendations of the European Union opened and supported a common policy in the entire community space and Romania, as member, had to respond to it. The reference documents in the field are the Recommendation of the European Commission on the digitisation and online accessibility of the cultural material and digital preservation 2006/585/CE on the 24th of August 20064; The Conclusions of the EU Council C297 on the digitisation and online accessibility of the cultural material published in the official Journal of the EU on the 7th of December 2006⁵; the Recommendation of the European Commission on the digitisation and online accessibility of the cultural material and digital preservation 2011/711/UE on the 27th of October 2011⁶; the Directive 2013/37 UE of the European Parliament and Commission on the 26th of June 2013⁷ on the re-use of public sector information. The objectives were the development of a long term strategy in the field of the digitisation by each member state, the actualisation of the legislation in the field, according to the EU and the international laws in the field of the right of the copyright, the creation of national digital libraries, frameworks and online access platforms. The common European policy in the field of the digitisation was constructed progressively, supported on one hand by the legislative force of the program documents of the European Council, which established precise terms for the implementation of the objectives, and on the other hand, by the power of the example offered by the initiator of the policy, by project financed directly by the Council. The most representative example is the European Library⁸, opened in 2008, an ambitious project intended as a travel in the history, the identity and the culture of the Europeans and which has over 51 million units in its collections, organised on domains and themes.

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¹ http://www.culturadata.ro/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/STRATEGIA SECTORIALA.pdf, p. 23, consulted on 29.03.2018.

² https://europa.eu/cultural-heritage/european-year-cultural-heritage en consulted on 29.03.2018.

³ Eva Mârza, "Opinii despre modalitățile de salvare a informației scrise cu valoare istorică", in *Cercetarea și perspectivele digitizării*, editors Ana Maria Roman-Negoi, Eva Mârza, Editura Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca, 2009, p. 16.

⁴ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32006H0585 consulted on 29.03.2018.

⁵ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2006:297:FULL consulted on 29.03.2018.

⁶ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32011H0711&from=RO consulted on 29.03.2018.

⁷ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013L0037&from=RO consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.europeana.eu/portal/en consulted on 30.01.208. On the 29 of March 2018, Europeana offered access to 51.374.015 art works, books, video materials, and artefacts from all Europe, organized on domains.

According to the Report of Romania on the 17th of January 2018, available on the site Europeana⁹, the contribution of our country to Europeana is of 154,830 digital units. Since 2008 and until the date of the report, the expenses of Romania for the support of the project Europeana were 60,000 EUR, while projects with a total value of 7,920 EUR were financed from the EU budget, having as beneficiary the County Library "Octavian Goga" Cluj-Napoca. Currently, Romania is not part in any project financed by EU, in order to contribute to Europeana. According to the presented data, the 154,830 units are the results of the efforts made by 52 partner institutions which responded to the call launched by Europeana. The institution with the largest contribution is the Central Academic library "Lucian Blaga" of Cluj-Napoca, with 58,363 digital units. The most important 20 Romanian institutions providing materials for Europeana are:

Data Partners	Objects on the Portal
"Lucian Blaga" Central Academic Library, Cluj-Napoca, Romania	58,363
INP - National Heritage Institute, Bucharest	51,921
The Library of the Romanian Academy	9,422
Romanian Television	6,091
National Library of Romania	4,664
County Library "Alexandru D. Xenopol" Arad	3,064
County Library "Panait Istrati" Brăila	2,424
Babes Bolyai University	1,700
The Central History National Archives	1,651
Timis County Library	1,442
County Library "G. T. Kirileanu" Neamţ	1,185
The museum collection of the Orthodox Archdiocese - Alba Iulia	1,022
The National Museum of the Union – Alba Iulia	986
County Library "Octavian Goga" Cluj	877
The Association of Hungarian Folk Dance from Romania, Sfântu Gheorghe	742
Images of Old Cluj	686
The County Museum Buzău, Romania	677
"Lucian Blaga" Academic Library of Sibiu	659
County Library "V.A. Urechia" Galaţi	501

The report offers a series of information on the web traffic in Romania during 2015-2017, the language of access, the number of units provided in the collection 1914-1918, which is unfortunately

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⁹ https://pro.europeana.eu/what-we-do/member-states Country-Factsheet-Romania-Europeana-January-2018

very small, only 19 units¹⁰. Europeana Network Association was created connected to Europeana library, an organism which reunites experts from the field of the digital patrimony and which has, according to the report, 105 Romanian members. Moreover, as recognition of the expertise of the Romanian specialists, in the Council of the Association, with 36 members with a key-role in all the activities involving Europeana, there are 3 representatives from Romania: Mrs Sorina Stanca from "Octavian Goga" County Library Cluj-Napoca, Mrs Olimpia Curta and Mrs Cristina Ioana Roiu from "Lucian Blaga" Central Academic Library Cluj-Napoca¹¹.

The national framework of the digitisation process

The specialised Romanian institutions responded to the community steps, thus, starting with 2008, we may discuss in Romania of an institutionalised effort for the conservation and the recovery of the Romanian cultural patrimony through digitisation. We mention the Order of the Minister of Culture 2244/15.04.2008 on the establishment of the Specialised Commissions for the digitisation of the national cultural resources and the Decision 1676 from 10/12/2008¹³ for the approval of the National program for the digitisation of the national cultural resources and the creation of the Digital Library of Romania. The legislative regulations were the fundament for the existence of a digitisation project of the unitary patrimony, extended to a national scale, on 4 directions: written patrimony (libraries), mobile patrimony (museums, collections), audio-visual patrimony (audio-visual archives), immobile patrimony (monuments, archaeology).

The public policy was the starting point in the digitisation process of the cultural resources and the creation of the Digital Library of Romania. The schedule of the aims was established on multiannual bases, in correlation with the schedule periods of the European Union. For 2008-2014, a plan of action in 2 steps was decided. The time interval 2008-2009 aim to: develop dedicated software, its maintenance and update; to acquire the equipment for the storage data and for the access to the digital content; the development of professional formation. The second step was represented by the time 2010-2014, when the objectives were represented by the attraction of European financing; the Romanian participation to the European regional programs in the field of digitisation; the formation of public – public and public – private partnerships ¹⁴.

For 2016-2020, the Strategy for national culture and patrimony 2016-2022 a document in the stage of approval, offers in numbers a balance of the previous achievements and the future projections. According to the National Strategy for the digital agenda of Romania 2020, 750,000 should be digitised and published in the European Digital Library until the end of the year 2015. Only 7.6% were digitised until 2016, a reason for the Ministry of Culture to propose financing from non-refundable funds for the project e-Cultura, aiming to digitise until 2020 a number of 750,000 resources mostly from the domain

¹⁰ Country-Factsheet-Romania-Europeana-January-2018, p. 3.

¹¹ Country-Factsheet-Romania-Europeana-January-2018, p. 4.

¹² http://www.bibnat.ro/dyn-doc/bd-Ordin-de-constituire-nr.-2244-2008.pdf consulted on 29.03.2018.

¹³ http://www.cimec.ro/Muzee/HG-1676-2008-digitizare22-12-2008.pdf consulted on 29.03.2018.

¹⁴ Niculae Stănescu, "Stadiul digitizării în Biblioteca Națională a României", in *Cercetarea și perspectivele digitizării*, editors Ana Maria Roman-Negoi, Eva Mârza, Editura Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca, 2009, pp. 39-40.

of the mobile cultural patrimony¹⁵. The strategy for the development of Romania for the next 20 years, proposed to the Romanian Academy, also approaches as priority direction of action the digitisation of the documents existing in libraries and their integration in the European and universal informational circuit. Ambitious targets are proposed: on short term (3 years) - 50,000 digitised objects; on medium term (10 years) - 75,000 digitised objects and on long term (20 years) - 100,000 digitised objects¹⁶.

Achievements and visibility

The European context and the national framework for the development of this ambitious digitisation process of the resources of the cultural patrimony are characterised by a set of legislative regulations, multiannual strategies and public policies, all bringing forward the importance and the benefit of digitisation for people and society.

The period 2008-2009 was the period of initiating some local institutionalised projects, individual or collective, that aimed to digitise documents of zonal or regional importance. The libraries with a rich cultural fund were the first to respond to the calls. They elaborated yearly plans of digitisation, with objectives and terms, but subject to fluctuations due to the modifications in the legislations, in budgets or personnel. The process was implemented in the Romanian libraries using the personnel, the equipment and the funds of the libraries (County Library "Astra" Sibiu, County Library Mureș, County Library "George Barițiu" Brașov, and County Library "Octavian Goga" Cluj-Napoca)¹⁷. Each of these project represented attempts to conquest a field with many unknown elements. The general note characterising this period of beginning is given by mobility and enthusiasm. The conquest of the new field was achieved step by step, sometimes empirically, but constantly, in an effort subordinated to the generous objective of opening the access to knowledge. One of the most frequent problems in the digitisation process intending the online dissemination of materials was and still is the copyright protecting the online contents. E.g., the online access to the digital collection of one of the most longest-living regional periodicals, Gazeta de Transilvania, was not simple to obtain. The process required in a first phase the approval of the Romanian Office for Copyrights (ORDA) in order to load the collection. ORDA considered that the online access is against the legal regulations on the copy making and use with the aim of preserving the original. It was permitted the download of the online catalogue of the periodical on the page of the County Library Brasov, without the attachment of images and the possibility for the users to save the digital version on a computer without connection to internet. The beginnings of the digitisation of the cultural patrimony to the County Library "George Baritiu" were marked by experiments, searches and attempts of defining and communicating, and debates. One of the projects of that time, the digital library of Gazeta de Transilvania is now a reality, the site www.gazetatransilvaniei.ro hosting the periodical starting with its first year of appearance, 1838¹⁸.

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¹⁵ http://www.cultura.ro/sites/default/files/inline-files/_SCPN%202016-2022inavizare.pdf, p. 30, consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.biblacad.ro/publicatii proprii/Timisoara2016 DraguLungu.pdf, p. 24, consulted on 29.03.2018.

Monica Avram, Alexandru Tcaciuc, "Un nou concept: Biblioteca digitală Mureș", in *Cercetarea și perspectivele digitizării*, editors Ana Maria Roman-Negoi, Eva Mârza, Editura Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca, 2009, p. 61.

¹⁸ Ruxandra Nazare, "Digitalizarea patrimoniului cultural la Biblioteca Județeană "George Barițiu" Brașov", in *Cercetarea și perspectivele digitizării*, editors Ana Maria Roman-Negoi, Eva Mârza, Editura Argonaut, Cluj-Napoca, 2009, pp. 72-73.

The achievements of the digitising process in the Romanian libraries are validated by visibility, given by the online environment. For the online search of the Romanian digital libraries (key words: digital libraries Romania), only a few names appear. The online fluctuations do not permit a definitive hierarchy, but the results of the searches for the period September 2017- March 2018 return the same institutions: the Romanian National Library, the Library of Bucharest, the Central Academic Library "Lucian Blaga" Cluj-Napoca, the County Library "ASTRA" Sibiu, the County Library "Gheorghe T. Kirileanu" Neamţ, and the County Library Mureş.

The first result indicates the Romanian National Library, through the National Digital Library 19, containing digital collections created by digitising some documents from the special collection of the Romanian National Library, organised on themes or events. The site is connected to Europeana, allowing the access to the exposed collections. Among the collections of the National Digital Library we mention: the Historical archive, with 2,296 resources, containing the Fund of historical documents from the 15th-19th century, the Kogălniceanu Fund, the Saint Georges Fund, the Brătianu Fund, the Fund of the 20th century, the Fund of loose papers, 145 incunabula, 329 old Romanian periodicals, 521 resources of old Romanian and bibliophile books, 1,608 Romanian and European photos, Romanian illustrated postcards and illustrated postcards from Basarabia and Bucovina, photo albums, etc., 697 manuscripts among which Arabian and Greek manuscripts, but also precious documents from the collections of the Batthyaneum Library from (251 manuscripts and 14 incunabula)²⁰. Manuscripts and incunabula from the Batthyaneum Library are also possible to be researched nowadays on the portal Manuscriptorium of the Czech National Library²¹, the largest digital library of manuscripts and old books in Europe, which managed to integrate, until the present time, collections from over 46 representative institutions from Romania, especially the National Libraries²². The National Digital Library offers access to collections and also to the phases of the entire digitisation process through the activity of the Commission for the digitisation of the written cultural patrimony. Thus, a section is dedicated to the Inventory of the digitised documents in the national library system, reflecting the beginnings of the digitisation process in Romania²³ and to the Inventory list of the digitised documents in the Romanian library (updated in September 2017)²⁴. In August 2017, the document contained 25 institutions (county and academic libraries and museums) and 22,292 inventoried units, while in September 2017 there were 22,521 inventoried units. There are indicated the owner, the title and the type of the document (old Romanian book, manuscript, postcard), the author, the locality, the publishing house, the year, the cote and the inventory number. The digitisation process concretised in digital collections and archives represents a priority direction of the Romanian National Library in the

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¹⁹ http://digitool.bibnat.ro/R consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bibnat.ro/Biblioteca-Digitala-s89-ro.htm consulted on 29.03.2018. For the collections from Batthyaneum Library see http://www.bibnat.ro/Colectiile-Filialei-Batthyaneum-s187-ro.htm

²¹ http://www.manuscriptorium.com consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bibnat.ro/Manuscriptorium-s90-ro.htm consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bibnat.ro/Inventarierea-documentelor-digitizate-s160-ro.htm consulted on 13.09.2017.

²⁴http://www.bibnat.ro/dyn-doc/biblioteca%20digitala/LISTA%20INVENTAR_august%202017.pdf consulted on 13.09.2017; http://www.bibnat.ro/dyn-doc/biblioteca%20digitala/LISTA%20INVENTAR_septembrie%202017.pdf consulted on 29.03.2018.

Strategic Plan 2017-2021, opened to suggestions and proposals²⁵. The inventory list is an extremely important document that allows the identification of all the libraries that transmitted to the National Libraries information related to the digitised documents, in an alphabetical order. There are present: Batthyaneum Library, County Library "A. D. Xenopol" Arad²⁶, County Library "Dinicu Golescu" Argeș²⁷, County Library "Bod Péter" Sfântu Gheorghe²⁸, County Library "George Barițiu" Brașov²⁹, County Library "Panait Istrati" Brăila³⁰, County Library "Octavian Goga" Cluj-Napoca³¹, County Library "Ioan N. Roman" Constanța³², County Library "V. A. Urechea" Galați³³, County Library "Ovid Densusianu" Hunedoara³⁴, and County Library "Gheorghe Asachi" Iaşi³⁵, present in the list with only two digitised works. The Inventory list includes the County Library Mures³⁶, an institution in the top of the results of the search engines on the most visible digital libraries in Romania. As element of novelty, the digital library offers a List of the digital libraries, most of them in Europe, and the link to them. According to the displayed information, the Digital Library contains 137 documents: books, periodicals and dictionaries. Only 3 books are available in the section dedicated to the old books, mentioning that a larger number is scanned and being processed for loading. We find as components of the digital library: books for students, the result of an AFCN project initiated in 2008; works on the County Library Mures and presentations on various themes.

The County Library "Gheorghe T. Kirileanu" Neamt³⁷ has a strong visibility online, being presented as result for the search for a digital library. The institution is currently present on the portal Europeana with 150 digital objects (pdf files), over 9,000 pages with online access and a content of local history and culture. The digitisation activity was developed between 2008 and 2011, in the project "EuropeanaLocal", with a result of 114 volumes in books and periodicals, independent or in collection, coming from the Documentary Fund "G. T. Kirileanu", a total of 14,937 pages³⁸.

The inventory list also includes the County Library Prahova, the County Library Satu-Mare, the County Library "Astra" Sibiu, the County Library Timis, the County Library Tulcea, the County Library Vaslui, the Museum "Casa Muresenilor" from Brasov³⁹ – the possessor of the Archive of Mureșeni, The Szekely National Museum, the Central Academic Library Bucharest, the Central Academic Library Cluj, the Central Academic Library Sibiu, and the Central Academic Library Craiova.

²⁵ http://www.bibnat.ro/dyn-doc/Strategia BNaR 31ian2017.pdf consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://digitizare.bibliotecaarad.ro/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bjarges.ro/biblioteca/profesional/projecte/enciclopedia-argesului-si-muscelului consulted on 29.03.2018.

https://www.kmkt.ro/index.php? consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bjbv.ro/scan/scan.php# consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bjbraila.ro/bjpi3/literatura-romana/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bjc.ro/new/index.php?contributia-romaneasca-la-biblioteca-digitala-europeana/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bjconstanta.ro/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bvau.ro/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bibliotecadeva.eu/bdh.htm consulted on 29.03.2018.

³⁵ http://www.bjiasi.ro/ consulted on 29.03.2018

http://www.bjmures.ro/bd/index.php consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.bibgtkneamt.ro/consultată la 29.03.2018.

http://www.bibgtkneamt.ro/resurse-de-informare/item/109-biblioteca-digital%C4%83 consulted on 29.03.2018.

For the online developed projects see http://muzeulmuresenilor.ro/projecte-online; http://muzeulmuresenilor.ro/arhiva/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

The County Library "Astra" Sibiu is one of the most visible digital libraries in Romania. The digital library contains books, manuscripts, periodical and iconographic materials from the collection of ASTRA County Library Sibiu. The selection criteria for digitisation are: unique publications, publications relevant for Sibiu and Transylvania, very solicited documents and documents scanned to the solicitation of the readers ⁴⁰.

The Central Academic Library "Lucian Blaga" of Cluj-Napoca⁴¹ offers two active interfaces, the Digital Library with a new interface in d-space and Transsilvanica Digital Library⁴². On the interface of the site Transsilvanica, among the most important works that were digitized and offered free to the readers, there is *The Chronicles of the Romanians (Hronica românilor)* by Gheorghe Şincai, Buda, 1808, 3 volumes, presented in excellent conditions of accessibility and visibility of the materials. The library offers access to 508 manuscripts⁴³ and 119 periodicals⁴⁴ belonging to the Romanian and Hungarian cultural patrimony: *Transilvania, Luceafărul, Gazeta de Transilvania, Foaie pentru minte, inimă și literatură, Familia, Erdély.* The d-space interface offers access to very various categories: manuscripts, old and books, iconographic materials, periodicals, books and excerpts, publication issued by the library, and bibliographies for academic courses. There are search possibilities among the available categories by author, subject, and publishing date.

The online results for the Romanian digital libraries show that the Digital Library of Bucharest⁴⁵ (former named Dacoromanica), created by the Metropolitan Library, is the most important Romanian digital library with free virtual access, offering a large range of digitized documents as text, image, audio or video, exact digital replicas of the documents from the patrimony of the Metropolitan Library and of other institutions with patrimonial funds (the Library of the Romanian Academy, the History Institute "Nicolae Iorga", the Museum of the Romanian Literature), pursuing the integration in the community of the European digital libraries with books and manuscripts⁴⁶. The documents are organised on domains: art, economy, history, linguistics.

Memoria (Memory), a Digital library of interviews, memoirs, oral history, books and images from the recent Romanian history stands out among the Romanian digital libraries and presents events from the 20th century as reflected in the mind of those who experienced them⁴⁷.

The digitisation effort, in the name of the openness to knowledge was done mostly in programmes with European or national financing. Such recent projects is *Medievalia* – fundamental texts of the Romanian Middle Age Culture⁴⁸, initiated by The Association Excellence through Culture, in partnership with the Library of the Romanian Academy, offering access to 62 manuscripts of old Romanian literature, 15th-18th century. Each volume contains a description and its localisation.

⁴⁰ http://bjastrasibiu.ro/biblioteca-digitala/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://dspace.bcucluj.ro/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://documente.bcucluj.ro/ consulted on 29.03.2018.

⁴³ http://documente.bcucluj.ro/patrimoniu.html consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://documente.bcucluj.ro/periodice.html consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.digibuc.ro/colectii consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.digibuc.ro/statutul-bibliotecii consulted on 29.03.2018.

http://www.memoria.ro/ consulted on 18.07.2017.

http://medievalia.com.ro/ consulted on 15.09.2017. On 29.03.2018 the site is under maintenance.

The most recent project in the field was coordinated by the University of Bucharest. The project "The digitisation of the medieval documents from the Romanian National Archives" was implemented by the University of Bucharest in partnership with "Babeş-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, the Romanian National Archives and the Norwegian National Archives. The project was developed between December 2014 and April 2017 and was financed with 3,942,848.08 RON, as part of SEE Mechanism on "The conservation and the revitalisation of the cultural and natural patrimony" It was the first important project of digitizing the historical documents from Romania. More documents than initially estimated were discovered during the project (55,000 instead 36,000). Thus, there were scanned 39,850 archive units from the central and counties archives, most of them from the County Service Cluj of the National Archives, with 20,000 archive units. By processing these archive units, there was a result of approximately 55,000 documents, due to copies and abstracts The site including the free access data base www.arhivamedievala.ro is unfortunately inoperative by the time of the present presentation.

Conclusions

In the field of digitisation, after 10 years since the initiation of the process, we have a digitisation public policy and many declarations of intent concretised in the strategies of several institutions coordinating the domain. The concrete results are measurable and are better observable in the European contribution of our country and in the Inventory list of the digitized documents in the Romanian libraries, periodically updated by the National Library of Romania. The results are much disproportionate compared to the number and the value of the works in the possession of the Romanian public libraries. The poorly allocated funds and the lack of constancy and consistency in the public policy in the field are the main problems leading to the risk of transforming the digitisation of the Romanian patrimony into an empty shell. There was a passage from the enthusiasm of the beginnings in all the libraries to the area of the partnerships, through European projects. There are very few the libraries that managed to implement the projects and the inoperative data bases are a proof for this aspect. Mainly the academic libraries obtained more visible results, due to the specialised personnel, but also due to the constant pressure coming from a category of readers – the students – that required the harmonisation of the rhythm with the evolution of the technology. Still, there are very few public libraries, as the county libraries, offering online access to the digitised contents.

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⁴⁹ http://arhivelenationale.ro/site/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/comunicat-arhiva-medievala-lansare-proiect.pdf consulted on 29.03.2018.

⁵⁰ http://infoub.unibuc.ro/2017/05/universitatea-din-bucuresti-a-incheiat-proiectul-digitizarea-documentelor-medievale-din-arhivele-nationale-ale-romaniei/ consulted on 29.03.2018.



Considerations on services quality in a modern library and its impact on supporting education and research.

Rodica M. Volovici, Elena Mărginean, Liliana Oprescu, Ioan Vișa

The 9th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on Information Science and Information Literacy Sibiu, Romania, April 19-20, 2018



Case study in the Library of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

- In October 2017-February 2018, the Library of the "Lucian Blaga University" of Sibiu undertook a research on "*Improving the activity of the library and improving the quality of its services*".
- This looks at the quality level of the services offered within the library, aiming at identifying the needs of the library users with a view to unfolding good information-documentation-research activities, determining the complexity and the usefulness of the information-documentation sources made available to the university community, as well as the user satisfaction level.
- To fulfil these objectives, starting from the below hypotheses, we used the empirical research method a questionnaire-based survey on a sample of 102 subjects representing library users:
 - the better the library services, the more satisfied the users,
 - the more open library users are to new information-documentation trends, the more satisfied they are about the topics approached,
 - the better and more varied the library, the more satisfied the users by its services.



Results and discussions

The first set of questions was designed to learn the users' opinions on the quality of the LBUS Library services, correlating the level of importance with personal satisfaction in the case of a series of aspects related to document communication services.



Table 1: Level of importance as assigned by user

	1 (very important)	2 (important)	3 (accessible)	4 (less important)	5 (not at all important)	6 (I don't use this)
Ease of finding a book on the shelves	75 answers = 73%	18 answers = 18%	6 answers = 6%	0	3 answers = 3%	0
Ease of finding periodical publications on the shelves	61 answers = 59%	18 answers = 18%	9 answers = 9%	0	14 answers = 14%	0
Ease of finding other documents	48 answers = 46%	18 answers = 18%	18 answers = 18%	9 answers = 9%	6 answers = 6%	3 answers = 3%
Documentary area of existing publications	78 answers = 76%	15 answers = 15%	3 answers = 3%	3 answers = 3%	3 answers = 3%	0
Access to a publication which is not in the library stocks	54 answers = 52%	15 answers = 15%	12 answers = 12%	9 answers = 9%	6 answers = 6%	6 answers = 6%
Ease of browsing the library website	75 answers = 73%	9 answers = 9%	15 answers = 15%	0	3 answers = 3%	0
Ease of retrieving information from the library online catalogue	81 answers = 79%	12 answers = 12%	9 answers = 9%	0	0	0



The above table shows that, for users, the most important aspects have to do with accessibility, the library's capacity to grant access to its collections, regardless of the format.

The greatest importance is awarded to the ease of retrieving information from the library online catalogue: 81 users, i.e. 79% think this is very important. This aspect is concurrent with the efforts made over the last few years to maximize accessibility to information retrieval. Thus, the LBUS Library digital system - a first in Romania when it was launched ten years ago - integrates the Rfid system and the library's modern management system, Softlink Liberty5. Besides, the library tries to meet readers' wishes by processing the information within the documents (archiving-classifying-indexing) and through information collection, processing, and dissemination services.

A second highly important aspect refers to the documentary area of the publications within the library stocks, as 76% of respondents think this is very important. A fundamental objective of the LBUS Library is to set up and to permanently and systematically complete the documentary stock with scientific publication related to the specialization of the LBUS BA, MA and PhD programmes, as well as to the scientific research topics and to the scientific and cultural issues of interest.



Table 2: Satisfaction towards library services

	1 (highly satisfied)	2 (satisfied)	3 (acceptable level of satisfaction)	4 (low level of satisfaction)	5 (not at all satisfied)	6 (I don't use this)
Ease of finding a book on the shelves	66 answers = 64%	21 answers = 21%	12 answers = 12%	0	3 answers = 3%	0
Ease of finding periodical publications on the shelves	51 answers = 49%	24 answers = 24%	18 answers = 18%	3 answers = 3%	3 answers = 3%	3 answers = 3%
Ease of finding other documents	33 answers = 32%	30 answers = 29%	27 answers = 27%	6 answers = 6%	3 answers = 3%	3 answers = 3%
Documentary area of existing publications	42 answers = 41%	39 answers = 38%	9 answers = 9%	12 answers = 12%	0	0
Access to a publication which is not in the library stocks	24 answers = 24%	36 answers = 34%	12 answers = 12%	9 answers = 9%	3 answers = 3%	18 answers = 18%
Ease of browsing the library website	54 answers = 52%	18 answers = 18%	15 answers = 15%	15 answers = 15%	0	0
Ease of retrieving information from the library online catalogue	57 answers = 55%	24 answers = 24%	15 answers = 15%	3 answers = 3%	0	3 answers = 3%



After synthetizing the results on user satisfaction regarding the same aspects measured from the point of view of impact, we noticed that the highest degree of satisfaction was granted to the ease of finding a printed book on the shelves. Thus, 64% of the respondents said they were very satisfied, 21% satisfied, 12% answered that the way in which they find a book on shelves is acceptable, while 3% are totally dissatisfied. This is a highly important aspect for the LBUS Library: since approximately 60% of our printed books are freely accessible on shelves, one of our permanent concerns is to facilitate access to existing material and information, by ensuring assistance aimed at finding the proper material, information and services necessary for studying and research.

At the same time, accessing publications which are not part of the library stocks, through interlibrary loans, scored the lowest level of satisfaction: 24% of respondents are very satisfied, 34% satisfied, 12% think it is acceptable, 9% indicate a low satisfaction level, while 18% don't use this service. This is mainly due to the fact that users cannot access information in due time, because there is a delay between the moment when their information-documentation-research need appears and the time when personal satisfaction is achieved.



Correlations

In what follows, based on the above results, we will try to compare users' satisfaction, expectations, and perceptions to developing techniques to improve the quality of library services, in an attempt to meet the need of every reader.

Thus, we correlated the degree of satisfaction and the importance awarded to this with the ease of finding a book on the shelves, the degree of satisfaction with the importance of the documentary area of publications within the library stocks, the degree of satisfaction with the importance granted to the ease of retrieving information from the library online catalogue.

Analysing these correlations, we notice that, in general, users are satisfied with the ease of finding the resources they need in the library, regardless of their format, and less satisfied by the way in which the library website meets their information needs.

It is clear that, among all the publications offered in both traditional and electronic format, users prefer printed books.



Table 3: Correlations between the level of satisfaction and the importance of finding a book on the shelves

		LEVEL OF SATISFACTION							
I M	Σ	66	21	12	0	3	0		
P O	75	60	9	6	0	0	0		
R	18	6	12	0	0	0	0		
A	6	0	0	6	0	0	0		
C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
E	3	0	0	0	0	3	0		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

Table 4: Correlation between the degree of satisfaction and the importance of the documentary area of the publications within the library stocks

LEVEL OF SATISFACTION						
Σ	42	39	9	12	0	0
78	42	24	6	6	0	0
15	0	15	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	3	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	3	0	0
3	0	0	0	3	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Σ 78 15 3 3 3 0	$\begin{array}{c cccc} \Sigma & 42 & & \\ 78 & 42 & & \\ 15 & 0 & & \\ 3 & 0 & & \\ 3 & 0 & & \\ 3 & 0 & & \\ 0 & 0 & & \\ \end{array}$	Σ 42 39	Σ 42 39 9	Σ 42 39 9 12	\sum 42 39 9 12 0



It is noteworthy that, out of the 78 users (76% of the total number of respondents) who think that the documentary area of the publications within the LBUS Library stocks is very important, only 42 (i.e. 53% of those who believe this is highly important) are very satisfied, while 24 (i.e. 30%) are satisfied, and 6 (8%) are not at all satisfied.

Table 5: Correlations between the level of satisfaction and the importance of retrieving information from the library online catalogue

	LEVEL OF SATISFACTION							
I	Σ	57	24	15	3	0	3	
P	81	54	18	9	0	0	0	
0	12	3	6	3	0	0	0	
T	9	0	0	3	3	0	3	
A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Е	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

The situation is similar, in the sense that, out of the 81 users for whom the online catalogue is very important, only 54 are very satisfied with the way in which the library catalogue, through its search interface, meets their information need. However, it is noteworthy that 3% of users who believe this service is not important, or less important, do not use it. This can be explained by the fact that some users have no ITC competences; for them, the LBUS Library organizes weekly meetings for groups of maximum 30 people, who are offered specific information retrieval services, guidance, and access to data bases.



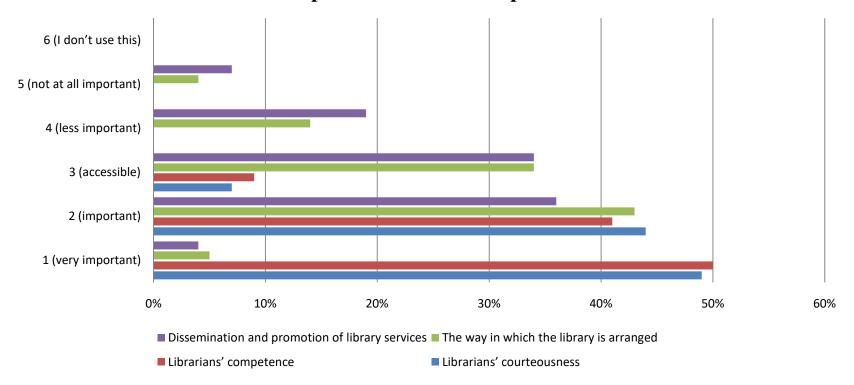
Then, users were asked to appreciate the library's material fund and the human resources involved in supplying library services.

Table 6: Significant aspects from the user's viewpoint

	1 (very important)	2 (important)	3 (accessible)	4 (less important)	5 (not at all important)	6 (I don't use this)
Librarians' courteousness	49%	44%	7%	0	0	0
Librarians' competence	50%	41%	9%	0	0	0
The way in which the library is arranged	5%	43%	34%	14%	4%	0
Dissemination and promotion of library services	4%	36%	34%	19%	7%	0



Desired aspects from the viewpoint of users



The results indicate that, for users, the most important aspects are related to the library staff, the human factor. As services are created by people, satisfaction increasingly depends on the personal relation established when unfolding these services. Therefore, the library staff must always be willing to help readers, be polite and professional.



Conclusions

The LBUS Library successfully fulfils the role of supporting the university's teaching and research activity, making documentary material and information services available to the academic community, as well as ensuring access to information sources outside the library.

High quality library services must meet users' expectations, emerge based on a need, ensure users' satisfaction, implement library criteria and professional ethics principles, be economically efficient and effective. It is important for the library to permanently improve the quality of the services offered, so as to attract more users and become more valuable, which can only happen when its resources are used.

The library must take on a new role, which involves a series of mutations to the services it supplies, the staff, the space available, and the access to its collections. The new structure highlights the importance of the services offered to users, which even influences the organization of collections. Library management mainly aims at high performance indices of the system. Since the result of the work in this field is information delivered in due time, in the proper format and correctly structured, performance indices can be associated to the level of satisfaction regarding these requirements.





Rodica M. Volovici, Elena Mărginean, Liliana Oprescu, Ioan Vișa

The 9th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on Information Science and Information Literacy Sibiu, Romania, April 19-20, 2018

A Study in Gold: Top Romanian Academic Journals and their Open Access Policies

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Faculty of Letters
Mihai CONSTANTINESCU, PhDc - University of Bucharest,
Faculty of Letters

Why "A Study in Gold..."?

- The study aims to offer an image of the Romanian Open
 Access journals indexed in Web of Science (WoS) and
 Scopus
- WoS + Scopus = renowned scientometric databases, used in the evaluation of Romanian research
- Development of the O.A. Movement
- European Union position on O.A.
- Lack of studies regarding the Romanian O.A. publishing environment

DOAJ - Directory of Open Access Journals

"Community-curated online directory that indexes and provides access to high quality, open access, peerreviewed journals" (1)

11,105 Journals

124 Countries

2,982,837 Articles

(March 30, 2018)

ROAD - Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources

"a service offered by the ISSN International Centre with the support of the Communication and Information Sector of UNESCO" (2)

It indexes 25,047 resources:

- Journals (22,348)
- Conference proceedings (242)
- Academic repositories (364)
- Monographic series (441)
- Scholarly blogs (1,703)

Methodology

- The identification of the Romanian journals included in WoS and Scopus
 - we excluded the inactive journals from both databases
- The identification of the Romanian OA journals included in WoS and Scopus
- Checking their inclusion in DOAJ and/or ROAD, the use of Creative Commons licenses and the application of processing/submission charges

Methodology

- The list of Scopus journals
- based on the Scopus Sources List available on the Scopus website (3)
- o includes journals that have *Publisher's Country* specified as Romania
- The list for Web of Science journals
- based on the list from the UEFISCDI site (4)
- verified on the Web of Science Master journal list (5)
- o includes SCI, SSCI and AHCI journals

Methodology

Data collection

we retrieved the data regarding journals through their website and double-checked it on the DOAJ and ROAD websites

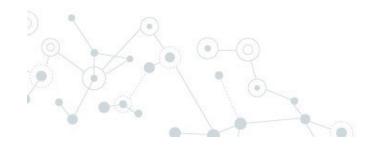
- we analysed the data on a case by case base where there was a contradiction between the DOAJ data and the data available on the website
- we used the DOAJ data in cases where it was the only available data

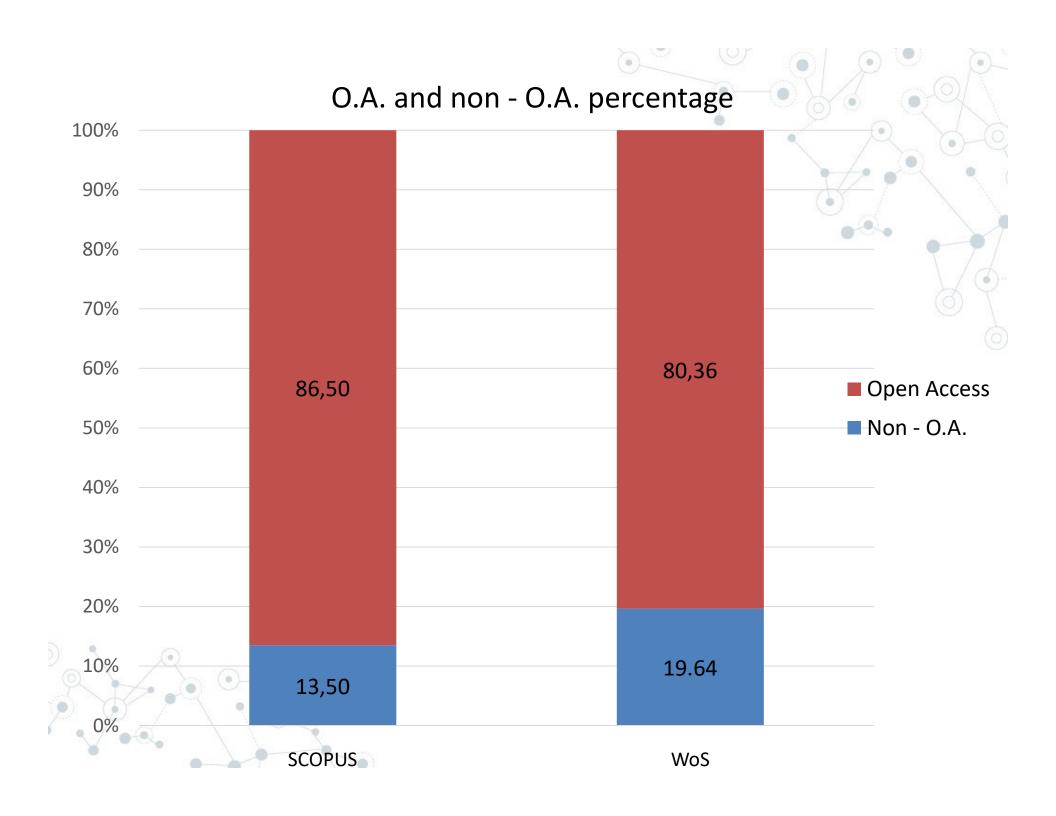
The big picture

Our study included a total of 167 journals:

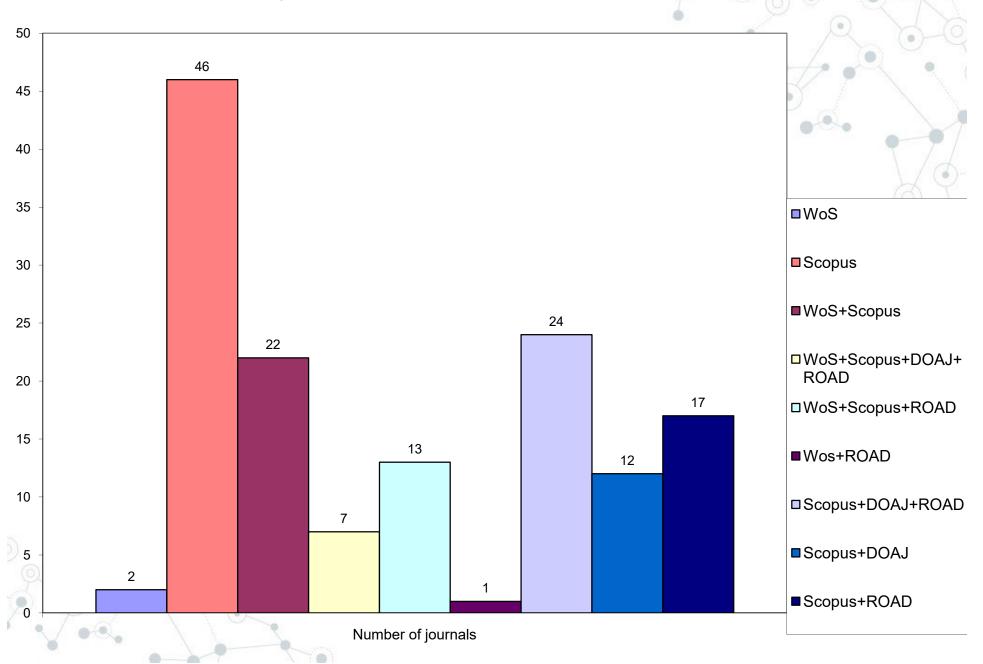
- 144 O. A.
- 23 Non-O. A.

About 86% of the journals are O.A.

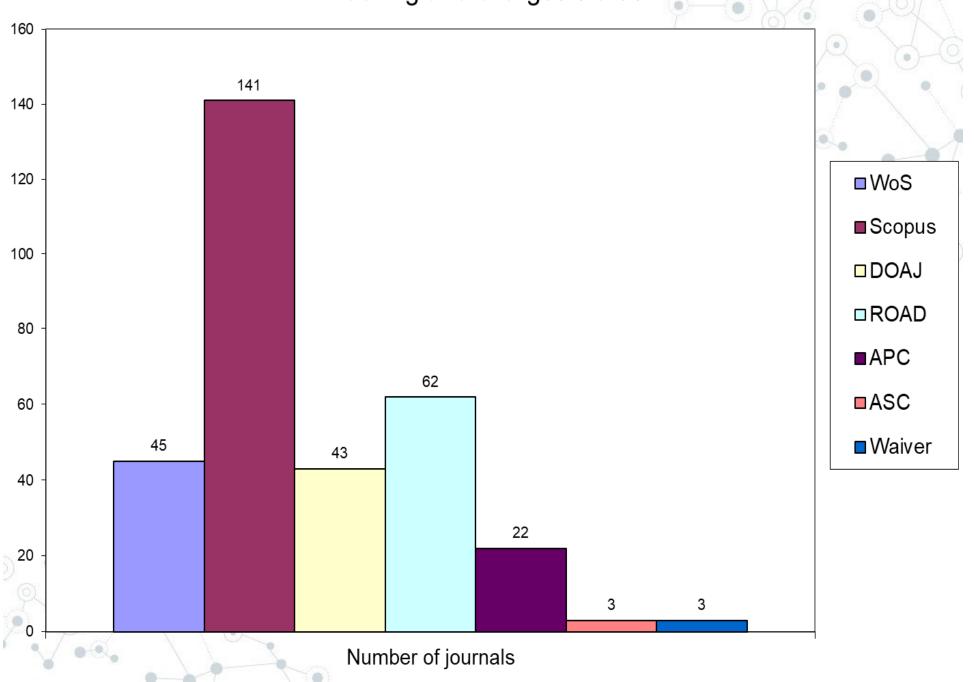




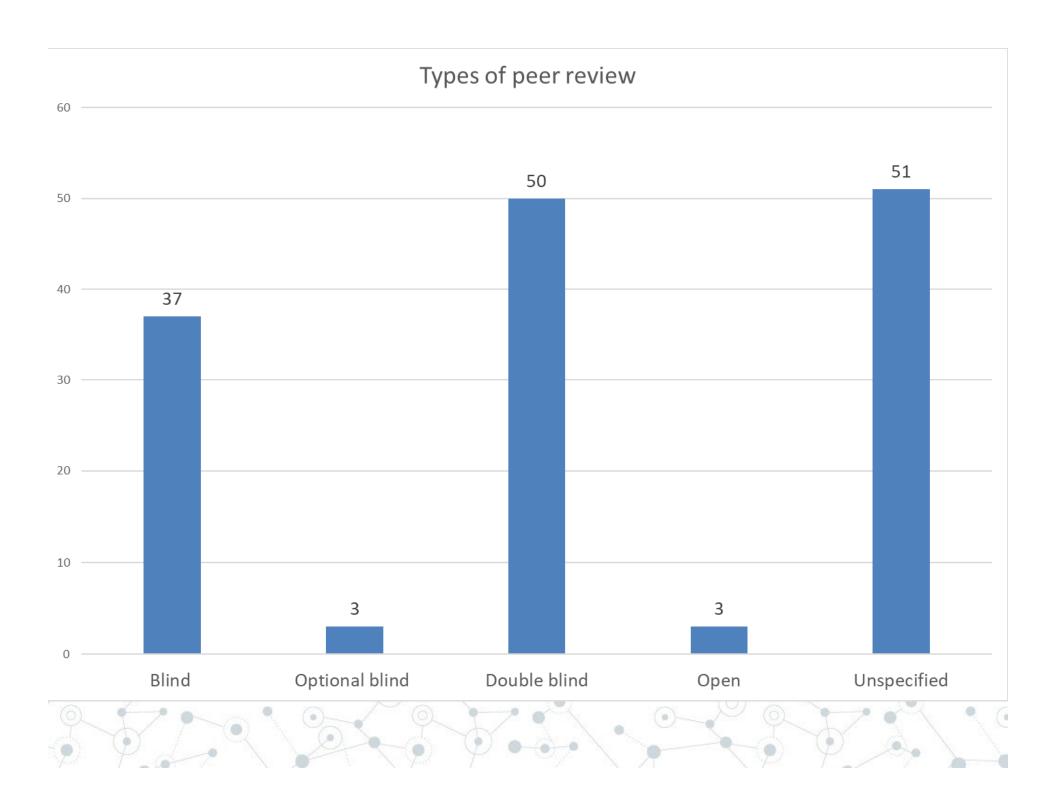
O.A. journals indexed in WoS/Scopus/DOAJ/ROAD

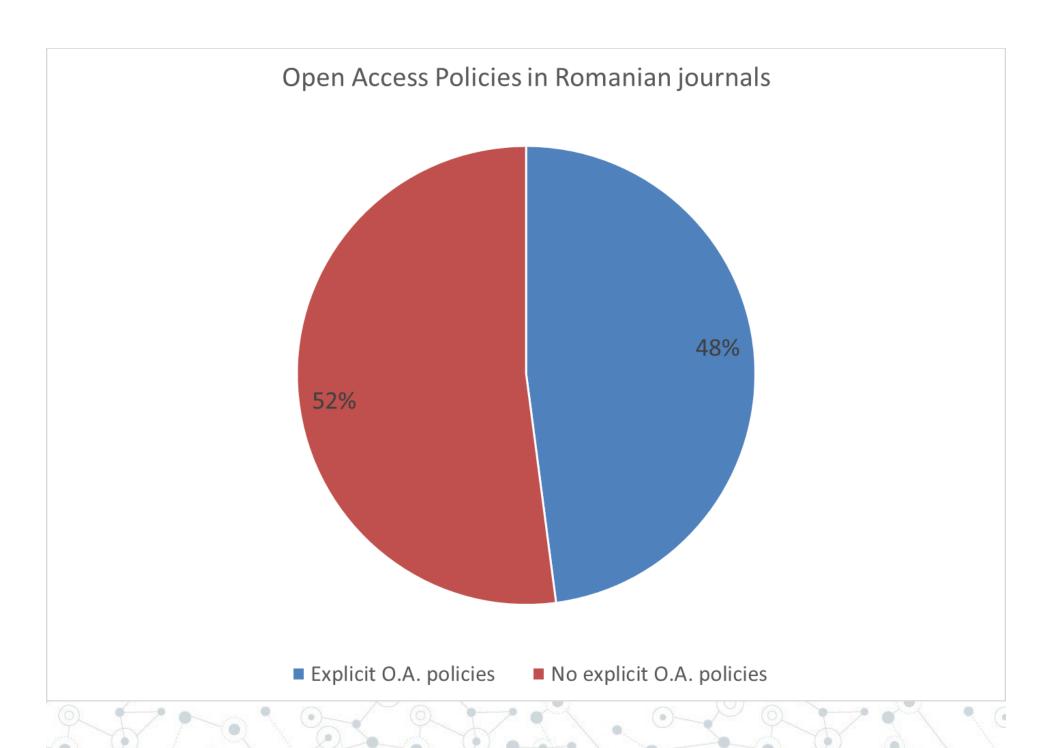


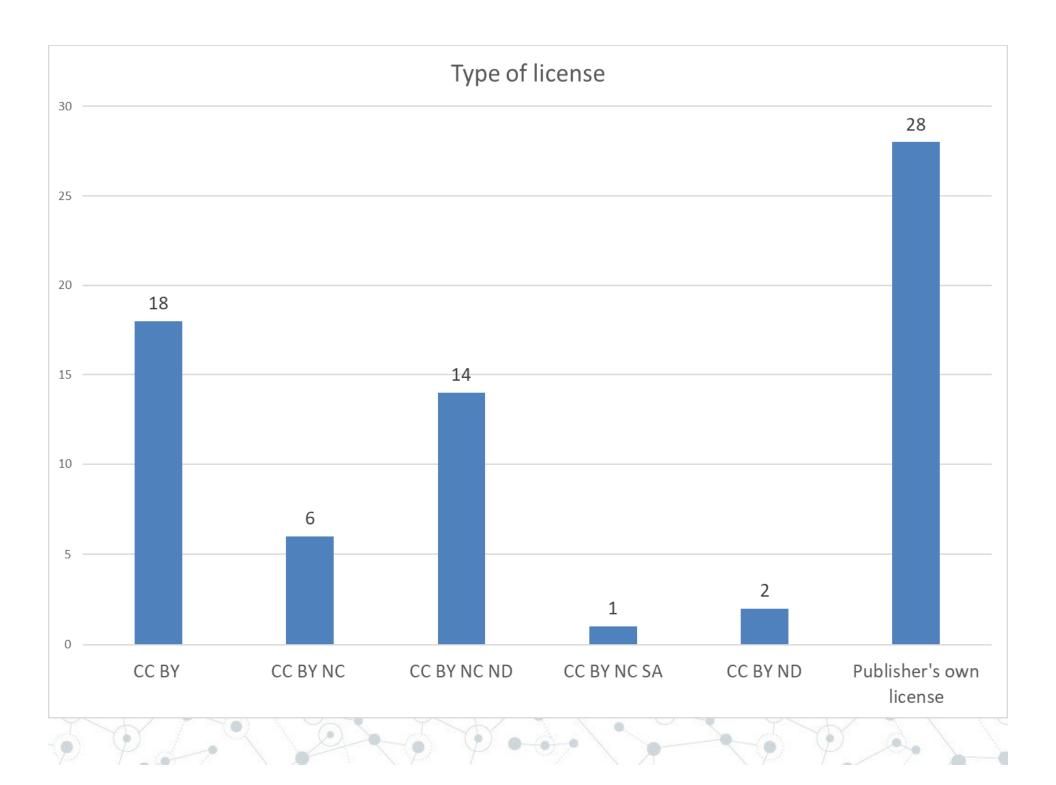
Indexing and charges status











Conclusions

- 86% of top Romanian journals are O.A.
- DOAJ and ROAD do not properly cover Romanian Open Access journals (48% of journals are not present in either)
- A significant part of the analyzed journals do not offer information regarding the type of peer review used, open access policies and licenses (although they offer free access to articles)
- Journal websites vary in quality with an important part being substandard and lacking essential information

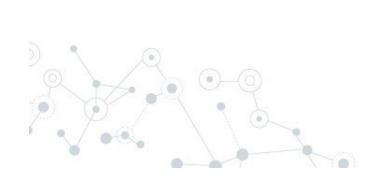
References

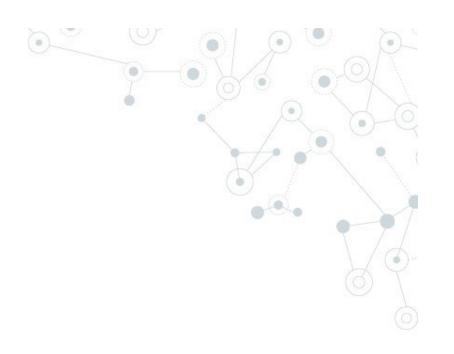
- 1. *Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)* [online] [Accessed March 30, 2018]. Available at: https://doaj.org/.
- 2. *Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources (ROAD)* [online] [Accessed March 30, 2018]. Available at: http://road.issn.org/en/contenu/purposes-road-project#.Wr40Qpe-nIU.
- 3. *Scopus preview: Scopus* [online] [Accessed March 30, 2018]. Available at: https://bit.ly/2qjHTcc.
- 4. Reviste românești indexate/cotate "ISI": reviste incluse în Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-EXPANDED), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) sau Arts and Humanities Citation Index (AHCI) [online] [Accessed March 30, 2018]. Available at: https://bit.ly/2H6AGWN.
- 5. *Master Journal List* [online] [Accessed March 30, 2018]. Available at: http://mjl.clarivate.com.

Thanks!

Any questions?

You can find us at: coravu@gmail.com mihai.constantinescu@drd.unibuc.ro





"Books take a long journey" / "Bucher machen eine weite reise"

- Partnership of the two University Libraries of Sibiu and Marburg promoted in the German press

Andrea WOLFF-WÖLK *, Riana BUCŞĂ **

*Library Director - Phillips Universität Marburg; **Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

Within the framework of the partnership, between the "Lucian Blaga" University Sibiu and the *Phillips University Marburg*, the LBUS Library received in 2017 a donation of 1000 books.

An article about this partnership was published in the local press in Marburg, "Oberhessische Presse" from 3rd February 2018.

We are pleased to share this partnership possible due to the support of Mr. profesor Werner SCHAAL, former president of the University in Sibiu and Mrs. Andrea WOLFF-WÖLK, director of the University Library Marburg. Our thanks go to our friends in Marburg.

Keywords: universities partnership, Marburg, Sibiu





Bücher machen eine weite Reise

Serie UB-Umzug, Teil 4: Rund 1000 Bände aus Marburg gingen an die Bücherei der Universität in Sibiu

Für den Umzug der Marburger Uni-Bibliothek (UB) wurden einige Doubletten ausgemustert. Ein Teil dieser Bücher wurde in Marburgs Partnerstadt Sibiu gespendet.

von Manfred Hitzeroth

Marburg. Die Bibliotheks-kooperation zwischen den Uni-versitäten der Partnerstädte Marburg und Sibiu (Rumainen) setzt eine historisch gewachse-ne Zusammenarbeit der beiden Hochschulen fort.

hschulen fort. erläutert die burger UB-Di-orin Dr. Andrea ff-Wölk im Ge-ich mit der OR-eien die Verant-tlichen der Uni-



belspielsweise bei
der baulichen Pilennung für die Ausgestaltung ihres Bibliotheks-Neu-

Samstag, 3. Februar 2018