

Report on activities of the National COBISS centre of Bulgaria in 2018

Since the implementation of the COBISS system in the National Library of Bulgaria in 2010, the long-term objective of the Library and of the National COBISS centre in particular is to join new academic, special or public libraries into the COBISS.BG system and respectively to the COBISS.Net network.

In relation to this in July 2018 the National COBISS Centre organised and held a presentation of the COBISS software for 20 community and regional libraries. At the presentation the librarians were congratulated by IZUM assistant Andreja Vobovnik, who was on a visit at the National Library as a mentor of the Use of COBISS3/Cataloguing-Advanced course.

Unfortunately and regardless of the discount proposal of the IZUM team for newly included libraries, the efforts of the National COBISS Centre to achieve its goal for joining new libraries were not successful mostly due to lack of expected financial resources.

Despite the above mentioned circumstances, the National COBISS centre continued to carry out its regular activities, namely:

- manage the COBIB.BG shared bibliographic database,
- provide COBISS software and manuals for shared cataloguing, local library functions and other services to all participants in COBISS.BG,
- provide professional help to libraries with the acquisition, installation and maintenance of computer equipment,
- organise and carry out training and offer professional help to libraries and other COBISS software and service users,
- verify professional qualification for working in the shared cataloguing system

Some important events within the National COBISS Centre activities in 2018 were also:

- Training of the lecturer Anelia Ivanova for obtaining licence for conducting COBISS courses that started in 2017 was successfully completed in 2018 and new courses on COBISS3/Cataloguing – Beginners' Course and COBISS3/Cataloguing – Updating CONOR are intended to be held in the beginning of 2019.

- A procedure for acquiring cataloguing permits (*licences*) was successfully completed in July 2018 and as a result 9 new licences were approved.
- Training activities for librarians were also quite successful. Three courses from the regular COBISS training programme (*Use of COBISS3/Records downloading and holdings, Use of COBISS3/Cataloguing-Advanced course, Use of COBISS3/Acquisitions- Monographs*) were held in 2018 and attended by 32 librarians (26 from the National Library and 6 from the Library of the National Centre for Information and Documentation)
- Total number of the newly created bibliographic records until October 2018 is 18 429 on the bases of which the number of the records included in the Union bibliographic/catalogue database increased to 1 028 887 records, including books, journals, articles etc.
- With regard to the appropriate operation of the COBISS system a lot of translations were made by the collaborators of the National COBISS Centre concerning the keys of MText, the Interface of COBISS+ as well as Updates for the different modules
- The number of the online reservations and renewals through the My Library application of COBISS/OPAC also increased almost twice in 2018 – 4 836 in comparison to 2017 when they were 2 516 right after the implementation of the COBISS/Loan module
- Following the elaboration of Guidance for bibliographic description of Slavic, Greek and other foreign language manuscripts, under the management of the COBISS Centre collaborators and with the help of the experts from the National Library, 56 records in this field were created which are only visible in the local database so far. By the end of 2018, we intend to edit those records, to enter holdings data and make them also visible in Union bibliographic catalogue. In this connection, I would also like to mention that till the end of 2018 we intend to start a procedure on cataloguing archival collections consisting of oriental documents, manuscripts and old printed books /in Ottoman Turkish, Arabic and Persian/
- Since the National Library of Bulgaria signed an agreement with IZUM for implementation of the COBISS system, it delegated responsibilities for personal data processing. With regard to the implementation of EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), in 2018 National COBISS Centre together with

the Data Protection Officer from IZUM started a procedure on preparing an agreement between IZUM and NBKM

In conclusion I would like to say that although the lack of financial support the National COBISS Centre of Bulgaria will continue its hard work on joining new libraries to the COBISS.Net network and hopes that via intergovernmental diplomacy its goals could be successfully achieved very soon.

Thank you for your attention!