

Summary of the Papers Presented at the 2011 Conference of IIAS and Published in “Atlanti” 2011

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The 2011 IIAS events were devoted to two themes: *European projects on archives (experiences, plans, future)* and *Archives in the present-day society (role, development and future)*.

Inaugural session

In his welcome address, Luciano SCALA, Director General of the Italian Archives (15)¹, expressed his satisfaction on the excellent relations between IIAS and the Italian Archives. The program of creating thematic Portals, mentioned at the 2010 Inaugural Session is progressing. The present session gives the opportunity to inaugurate formally the Portal dedicated to cadastres, built up by the State Archives of Milano and Trieste

Franci DEMŠAR, Director of the Slovenian Research Agency (19), appreciates the widening of the international links entertained by IIAS. He welcomes the Institute's efforts to launch projects of European interest and to resume co-operation with the ICA.

Franc KANGLER, Mayor of the City of Maribor (23), where IIAS was founded in 1985, greets the participants at this 21st International Archives Day. He then presents the program of Maribor, European Capital of Culture in 2012.

Antonio DENTONI LITTA, outgoing President of the Conference of the Members of IIAS (27), summarizes the history of IIAS activities since his election to the Chair. He thanks all those who secured the success of the Institute based on an atmosphere of trust and friendship.

Aldo SPARTI, incoming President (31), is confident that in the coming years, IIAS will maintain its scholarly credibility and its impact. He expects fruitful cooperation between IIAS and the Archives of the Mediterranean Sea project.

Marko FILLI, General Director of the Radio Televizija of Slovenia (35), describes the benefits of the digital revolution for the long-term preservation of the audio-visual archives. RTV of Slovenia has undertaken recently the organization of its digitized *Mediateka*, which preserves already 500 000 files.

The introductory report of Peter Pavel KLASINC (43) summarized the activities of the Executive Committee of the Institute for strengthening the professional and scholarly relations with 11 European countries. Permanent written contact was maintained with all IIAS members. The library continued to grow; from the 3000 items, 1000 are already edited in COBISS. Visits were carried out in Slovakia and Belarus. An exhibition on *Atlanti* was hosted by VNIIDAD, Moscow. 30 young archivists from Europe and Asia will attend this year the 5th Autumn Archives School.

This introductory section is concluded by the Summary of the papers presented at the 2010 Conference (49).

European projects on archives (experiences, plans, future)

Grazia TATÒ, Tourism, Cheese and...Archives! Which European Projects? (59)

For lack of staff and equipment, the archival institutions can hardly keep pace with the rapidly growing scholarly interest in archival sources. European funding of archival projects for the support of

1. Within brackets: the page where the paper begins.

scholarly research is possible in principle, if the applicants are prepared to observe the procedural requirements. Experts in project management were therefore trained and hired by the Italian Archives Directorate. Are being implemented, under the Cultural Programme of the European Commission, the Multimedia Historical Archives of the Mediterranean Sea, managed by the State Archives of Catania and the Mines of the Mediterranean Area as Cultural Deposits (MINMED), managed by the State Archives of Cagliari. France, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Spain and the UK are involved in this project. The BABEL Project, which comprises an important archival component, intends to promote better understanding between the nations of Central and South Eastern Europe, from Northern Italy to Ukraine.

Christine MARTINEZ - Patricia WHATLEY, The European Competency Model Framework: Shape your own Archivist (73)

ICA's Section of Professional Associations (ICA/SPA) and its European Regional Branch (EUR-BICA) endeavoured to develop a professional competency model that would facilitate cross European staff mobility. Because of the extreme diversity of professional, legal and educational traditions, the formulation of a single model proved to be impossible. For that reason, a handbook was prepared on the methodology of developing competency models, which would clearly describe the professional identity and the professional profile of the archival personnel as well as the skills, knowledge and abilities they are required to master. The paper outlines the educational and training system needed to acquire the competencies and the process for the assessment thereof.

Marie-Claude DELMAS, The Scientific, Cultural and Educational Project of French National Archives (87)

The Project developed in conjunction with the forthcoming inauguration of the new building in Pierrefitte, will govern and the share of the material and the coordinated activities of the three centres of the National Archives. A common computer system will cover the processing and preservation of the e-documents and the access of the users to the holdings through the computerization of all finding aids. The Project encompasses also the contact with the originating agencies, the acquisition of audio-visual records, the on-line access to digitized documents, the preservation and conservation field, the publication program and the cultural and educational activities.

Michal WANNER - Jiří BERNAS, Long-term preservation of digital records in the Czech Republic and the National Digital Archives project (101)

In the Czech Republic, research on long-term preservation of digital archives started in the 1990s and involved, gradually, a growing number of archival and other custodial as well as academic institutions. The policy thus developed opted for the establishment of a single National Digital Archives (NDA), incorporated in the Czech National Archives. The technological and financial planning has been completed. The NDA composed of two storage centres will be operational in 2014. It will serve also as an Archives Portal securing access to both e-records and digital copies of conventional archival documents. The DNA Project is supported financially by the EU.

Yolanda CAGIGAS OCEJO - José María MORELL OLIVER, The Electronic Records: Boosting the Efficiency of the Institutions Government: the Case of ARCHIVIUN (113)

In the age of e-administration, the competency of the archivists expands necessarily to the planning of electronic information systems and to all life cycles of the electronic records. Through this enlarged role, they contribute significantly to the administrative efficiency of the agency they serve. The paper is devoted to the case of the General Archives of the University of Navarra, created in 2006. The organisation of ARCHIVIUN, its component for the management of electronic records started in 2009, with the implementation of a pilot-project on Communication between the Rectorate and the 54 academic and administrative units of the University.

Olivera PORUBOVIĆ-VIDOVIĆ, Microfilm Digitization: Lessons Learned From Ongoing Project (123)

In order to secure the preservation of the records, copies have to be produced for use in the reading room. The Archives of Yugoslavia possess some 3000 rolls of microfilm totalling 2 700 000 images. It turned out in recent years that, because of the poor quality of the microfilm readers, researchers were compelled to request access to the originals. Instead of purchasing new equipment, decision was

taken, in 2008, to produce digitized copies of the microfilms. The paper describes the technology used in implementing the "PROTECTION OF ORIGINAL MICROFILMED ARCHIVAL HOLDINGS" funded by UNESCO. During the first stage of the project, the digitization of collection AJ-37 Milan Stojadinović (77 microfilm rolls - 82711 micro images) was carried out.

Josef HANUS - Emilia HANUSOVA, Some European Projects and International Cooperation in Preservation of Cultural Heritage (131)

The paper reports on seven research projects underway, funded by the EU and devoted to the preservation of the cultural heritage. Each project (*MIP*- Transitional Metals in Paper; *InkCor*-Stabilization of paper containing iron-gall inks; *Papyrus* - Chemiluminescence - a novel tool in paper conservation studies; *Papertreat* -Evaluation of mass deacidification processes; *SurveNIR* -Near Infra-red Tool for Collection Surveying; and *COST Action D42* - Chemical Interactions between Cultural Artefacts and Indoor Environment, *EnviArt*; and *IDAP* -Improved Damage Assessment of Parchment) is carried out through cooperation by groups of scientific and custodial institutions from EU member states. Slovakian specialists are participating in all seven projects.

Helina TENNASILM, Overview of the EU-Funded Digitization Projects in the National Archives of Estonia (139)

The National Archives of Estonia received in 2009 and 2010, under the Estonian EU structural funds, a total of € 2 042 000 for six digitization projects. Each project deals with a specific type of carrier: photographs, parchments, videos, maps, nitrate-based films and paper records. The implementation of all the projects was commissioned, under contract, to private companies selected through tenders. The paper presents also the Estonian-Swedish cooperation project for the digitization of sources on shipwrecks (*SHIPWHER*).

Caterine MAXIMOFF, ICARUS – International Centre for Archival Research – Cultural Projects and Activities on a European Level (145)

The association "ICARUS - International Centre for Archival Research", established in 2007, is covering 20 countries, primarily those of Central and South Eastern Europe. It intends to provide online access to the archival sources and thus to facilitate scholarly research on European history. The financial support for these activities, such as www.monasterium.net and www.matricula-online.eu, is provided through the "ENArC - European Network on Archival Cooperation" project, funded by the Culture Programme 2007-2013 of the European Commission. The content will be integrated into the nascent European archive portal APENet (www.apenet.eu), and will also be accessible via Europeana. Currently, 14 institutions from 10 different European countries work together on the ICARUS projects. The activities include workshops, conferences, lectures etc. on an international basis, and also, for a more closely targeted exchange of professional know-how, an "Experts Exchange Programme".

Archives in the present-day society (role, development and future)

Peter Pavel KLASINC, Curriculum of the Archives in States/Societies (155)

This introduction to the second theme of the Conference reflects on the role played in the past by the archives in State and society, and on their present status determined by legal texts and the electronic revolution. In its final section on "Tomorrow", the author recognizes that the current situation of the archives is worrying. He expresses, however, his conviction that, since State and society do need the preservation of the heritage and the knowledge of the past, archives are heading towards a more favourable future.

Family Research (163)

Information note on the Family Research program of the Genealogical Society of Utah. The microfilmed material is currently converted into digitized form. The collection is available online.

Anne GILLILAND - Sue MCKEMMISH, Pluralising the Archives in the Multiverse: A Report on Work in Progress (177)

Archivists should respond to the challenge of a plural and complex archival universe (hence the term «multiverse») by submitting all professional traditions, certainties, theories and practices to critical examination. AERI (Archival Education and Research Institutes) that groups Universities from the US (9), Australia, Canada, UK, Croatia, Sweden and the Netherlands, sharing that new approach,

undertook, with the financial support of the US Institute of Museum and Library Services, to educate on the postgraduate level a new generation of archivists, capable to address the wide range of contemporary issues. Doctoral programs and summer institutes, devised by AERI, concentrate on the material, intellectual and institutional changes that antiquated the archival paradigm of the last century. The second part of the paper presents three education and research themes relevant for emerging nations.

Azem KOŽAR, The Establishment of the Archives of International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague: Aspects From the Viewpoint of Archival Science (187)

Documentation of the International Court of Justice is of paramount importance for the research on the process of dissolution of the SFR Yugoslavia, theatre of massive war crimes - including genocide, during the fiercest armed conflict in Europe after World War II. Since political consensus on the future handling of the archives of the Tribunal by all countries involved is not possible to achieve, the decision should be based on professional considerations. The preservation of the total body of the records of the Court should be entrusted to a special archive of the UN, to be established in The Hague. The records of the Court should be regulated by the status of "common heritage", and thus, equally available to all countries concerned. The author advises against the relocation of the archive to Sarajevo, because rather than becoming part of reconciliation in the former Yugoslavia, it could become another divisive factor.

Christian KRUSE, The Useful Detail. Archives as Stores of Information in Present-day Society (197)

Referring to the example of Bavaria, the paper is meant to demonstrate that archives are not only treasures for the knowledge of the past but serve also as information stores on and for contemporary society. Data on soil contamination, for instance, essential for preparing building programs are located in municipal and district archives. The Freedom of Information Act, that came into force in Germany on 1.1.2006, assigns the archives new tasks with respect to access to contemporary files that accompany the life of every individual from birth to death, e.g. about inheritance, personal property, education, health, social situation etc. The new access policy and practice will affect also the information gathering by all media and the political personnel as well as the relationship between the record creating agencies and the archives. Outreach programs of the archives, including Internet, should highlight these new services the public might benefit from now on.

Michail V. LARIN, Archives in Modern Russia: Problems and Prospects (205)

The article surveys the major political, social and economic changes that occurred during the last twenty years and transformed the archival profession and institutions in Russia. The Central State and Party archives of the USSR, disintegrated in the early 1990s, were overtaken by the Russian Federation, in agreement with the CIS countries. Decentralization granted autonomy in archival matters to the 202 subjects (republics and provinces) and the 2377 municipalities of the Federation. The transition to market economy caused financial difficulties, but with the gradual economic recovery in the 2000s, the archival budgets increased. Staff salaries could be improved and several archive buildings were constructed. The democratization process resulted immediately in the opening of the archives to research and the production of finding aids. The deconstruction of the secrecy system is progressing through declassification campaigns. More than a million of inquiries were carried out by archivists on the victims of the repression during the soviet period. Russian archives enter the age of computerization. Their competence is being expanded to electronic records management and the creation of a Federal Archives for Electronic Records is underway.

Cristina BIANCHI, Evolution of Archival Education in a Small But Complex Country Called Switzerland: Multipurpose and Threefold Approach (211)

To respond to the needs of administrations and institutions, archival professional education started in Switzerland in the 1990s. The training scheme, approved by the professional associations, comprises three levels: i) assistants with a Federal Certificate of Capacity trained through apprenticeship; ii) specialists in information science with a Bachelor degree receive their professional education in the *Hautes Écoles Spécialisées / Fachhochschule*; and iii) several universities and *Hautes Écoles* offer postgraduate courses leading to a Master's degree. All these schools give training in archives, librarianship and documentation. Records management is still not adequately covered, although, in order to

cope with the production of electronic records, with the new regulations on information, access, privacy, transparency and standardization and to secure good governance, organizations and agencies do need records managers. Efforts are being made to fill this gap.

Danijela BRANKOVIC, Marketing in Archives Services: Term and Application (221)

This article shows how the modern concepts of marketing, a relatively new practice, can provide efficient support to the activities of archive services. In the Vojvodina (Serbia), where for economic, technologic and also political reasons, development of the archival infrastructures was retarded, a strong outreach action was needed in order to catch up with the European trend. These marketing activities, conducted on a permanent basis, aimed to dispose of the established stereotype about archives as "archaic" institutions. They focused on a wide range of initiatives, such as exhibitions, internet presentations, brochures and leaflets, work with researchers in reading rooms, educational services for students and pupils, television and radio transmissions and lectures so as to attract the users community and also to reach the general public. It turned out, that archives might play a role even in tourism. "Acquiring marketing literacy" is an investment for future, for fostering the integration of archives in the information society.

Marijan GERDEJ, Outline of the Archives and Records and their Evaluation in the Present Day Society (229)

As a professional archivist with a long experience, the author feels alarmed because of the false ideas on archives that were conveyed by the media in connection with the 2011 referendum on the secret service archives and because of a series of symptoms that reveal a lack of awareness of the cultural and scholarly value of the archival heritage even among educated Slovenians. In writing history, authors often omit to consult primary sources and content with copying other books. Awareness within civil society of the meaning and importance of archives is similar to a sinus curve: sometimes it is high and then low. Unfortunately, such lack of interest affects the preservation and management of records both in business corporations and public institutions. The professional community has to act for changing the opinion on archives and to spread knowledge about the value of the documentary heritage for the nation. Success of this effort depends primarily upon education, upon proper school programmes.

Živana HEĐBELI, Archives in the Country in Transition (233)

The article outlines the nation-building process and the exceptionally complex history of Croatia. It quotes the warnings of Croatian and foreign philosophers, historians, sociologists and politicians against conflict-generating nationalistic ideologies and myths. The "return to Europe", currently underway, requires that the phraseology inherited from the previous periods be dropped. The article follows the evolution of the Croatian archival policies and institutions as determined by the events that shaped the history of the Croatian State. The archival measures taken after the dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, during and after the war with Serbia for achieving sovereignty, are presented in detail. In 1997, the Law on archival records and archives entered into force. The Croatian Council on Archives, an advisory body to the minister of culture, is composed of members representing 7 ministries, the Catholic Church, the Society of Archivists and the State Archives, while Universities and non-governmental associations are not involved. Created in 2004, the Croatian Memorial Documentation Center of the Homeland War collects, arranges analyses and appraises, records and archives originated from and related to the War. According to the Law, all legal and physical persons that possess such documents are bound to transfer them to the Centre. Like the Institute for the history of labour movement during the socialist regime, the Centre is entitled to accession records irrespective of the principle of provenance. The article refers also to two cases submitted to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

Spyridoula ARATHYMOU, A Better World is Possible... The Social and Educational Role of Historical Industrial Archives (245)

The historical industrial archives, originating for the most part from the last two centuries, have a series of characteristics, which makes them "user friendly". No specialized knowledge is required for reading the documents. They cover a broad range of themes of scholarly interest, such as labour matters, machinery equipment, or the development of business accounting systems. They have a special meaning for the local community sentimentally attached to its industrial heritage. Associations con-

nected with historical industrial archives can organize, ideally in cooperation with local authorities, various actions to promote public awareness for the importance of the preservation of historical memory, in particular exhibitions for the general public and educational programs addressing the younger generation.

Magdalena MAROSZ, What the State Archives and the State Archivists in Poland are Today and Which Role they Perform (249)

The State Archives, which acted until recently as scholarly institutions, are operating now primarily as State offices, carrying out more and more tasks to support government administration. The Strategic Plan 2010-2020, formulated by the Director General of the State Archives, in compliance with the instructions of the Minister of Finances, define the mission and operational objectives of the public archival network, combines four priorities: i) to ensure permanent preservation of and secure access to the archival heritage; ii) to improve the infrastructures for making archival resources available online; iii) to second government agencies in the management of current records; iv) to serve the academic community and the general public by carrying out educational and cultural activities. In implementing the Strategic Plan, special attention will be given to the improvement of the human resources. All these efforts should lead to make the general public aware of the importance of archival resources and of the work of the archival institutions.

Francisco Javier AGUADO GONZÁLEZ - Inés IRURITA HERNÁNDEZ, The Role of Personal Archives as Support for the Research of the Recent History (255)

The article analyses the new research trend turning towards personal archives, i.e. documents accumulated by an individual in the course of his/her activities and transmitted for permanent preservation to an archival institution. This trend has raised, among Spanish cultural and scientific institutions, in particular Universities, a greater interest for the collect and preservation of personal archives of various types. Ownership of and access conditions to personal archives are subject to the Law on the Archival Heritage of 1985. Spanish Universities, which preserve themselves the records created by their activities, are entitled to accession, under contractual arrangements, private archives, donated to or deposited with them. A Working Group operating under the Conference of Spanish Universities is developing the methodology of processing such fonds. While most Universities possess less than 15 fonds of private origin, the University of Navarra, with its 205 family, personal and company archives, deserves special attention. The article describes the action in this field of the General Archive University of Navarra, which became a focal point for researchers on the recent history of Spain.

Antonio RATTI - Sonia GALASSO, From the INA Historical Archives two interventions of social policy, the Mutual Fund Pensions of Turin and the Plan of INA CASA (267)

The paper relates two important moments in the history of INA, founded in 1912. By the first operation, carried out immediately after its creation, INA, in agreement with the government and in cooperation with the National Social Security Fund, absorbed the insurance contracts of the workers with the Mutual Pension Fund of Turin, under bankruptcy threat. The INA Historical Archives allows the reconstruction of the most dramatic phases of the operation aiming to placate the social tension that would have resulted from the collapse of the Pension Fund. The second operation, also known as "Piano Fanfani", took place in the aftermath of World War II. It had the double objective to reconstruct the destroyed or damaged housing stock and to secure full employment. Thanks to the experience in housing gathered under the leadership of its President, Annetto Puggioni, INA was selected by the government to manage the Plan. The technical parts of the legislation on the Plan were prepared in the palazzo of via Sallustiana, the historical headquarters of INA.

Ilana BUDOWSKI, Transition From the Analog to the Digital Era: Coping With Loss of Archival Information in Israel (289)

The digital era, while allowing substantial breakthroughs with respect to the creation, storage and retrieval of archival material of various sorts, leads, on the other hand, to substantial permanent loss of material. The digital media, as opposed to the physical (paper) one, is sensitive to intentional and unintentional manipulations and changes; it is shorter living due to fast ageing of hardware and software- being replaced by newer and more advanced technologies. This problem is especially acute in the intermediate period till international standards for electronic records management systems (ERMS) are agreed upon and implemented. The current computerized systems do not provide the

basic demands needed to ensure long term authenticity, retrieval and safekeeping of records. There is a massive daily loss of valuable archival material that would be impossible to retrieve in the future. The most current and urgent example demanding immediate attention is that of emails, which people tend not to save. The paper outlines the email records management policy to be followed and concludes that till its full implementation, all emails should be printed and filed according to the policy developed by the agency.

Snežana PEJOVIĆ, Does a Modern Archivist Hold Archival Profession in its Hands? Opportunities and Limitations (295)

This paper points out several obvious challenges facing the archivists in the 21st century, such as: education, training, lifelong learning; strategic planning in archival profession; sustainable development; financing, with the development of marketing and new management; politics, executive power and autonomy of archival profession. It focuses on the experiences from Montenegro. The country went through deep economic and societal reforms. It is faced, like all other countries, with the global economic crisis and is under pressure to meet the requirements for joining the European Union and NATO. Archivists, confronted with this environment, have also to cope with the recommendations of various European and international archival bodies on professional issues. Unfortunately, while adopting umbrella guidelines, at least at the level of all countries of the Old Continent, would be highly desirable, international archival bodies and organizations such as ICA, or its branch for Europe - EUR-BICA, or SPA, have an extremely passive attitude. Finally, this paper can be understood as an invitation addressed to all structures within the European Union, to give to archivists a stronger support that would help them to cope more easily with the challenges and tasks being brought by the new era.

Andrei RYBAKOU, Belarusian Archives in the Modern Society (307)

Comprehensive report on the current and planned activities of the archives of Belarus, presenting both their achievements during the last twenty years and the problems and difficulties they are confronted with. On the positive side, the upgrading of the situation through the adoption of a law and sets of professional rules, the construction of facilities, the foundation of the Research Institute for Documentation Science and Archival Affairs (BelNIIDAD) and of the Research Centre on Electronic Documentation, a dynamic program of publications and exhibitions and the liberalization of the access policy based on the Recommendation of the Council of Europe. In 1998, the Government instituted a National Day of Archives. On the other side, the main difficulties result from the loss of its independence by the archival agency, integrated in the Ministry of Justice. Although, in 2010, a State Archival Program, provided with increased financial means, was approved, funding is still inadequate, the salaries and the equipment budget are too low. In conclusion, the article outlines the prospects in technology, professional education and legal matters.

Jelka MELIK - Mateja JERAJ, Archives in the Present-Day Society (319)

On the one hand, Europe has become unified, democratic, computerised and technologically developed; on the other hand, the economic crisis that began at the end of the first decade of the twenty-first century has revealed numerous inadequacies. Too often, words about democracy and the rule of law are devoid of substance. A similar ambiguity applies to the archives. There is no doubt that free access to public information is one of the general principles of democracy that has already been enshrined in the legislation of most European countries. But often the protection of confidentiality of public records and of personal data narrows the public's insight into the functioning of a State. It is therefore essential for democracy that politically independent archives, with highly qualified archivists, acquire increased weight in public life. Rather than limiting their mission to provide support to science and knowledge as cultural institutions, the archives should serve as key institutions of the rule of law. This can only be achieved through close international cooperation and by recognising that archival science is not a mere national science. Slovenian experience can serve as a teaching example and an appeal to adopt a common approach.

Elisabeth SCHÖGGL-ERNST, Archives in the Future: Considerations and Strategies (329)

This article, showing possible ways and strategies for archives to survive in the world of knowledge management, warns against simplifying approaches. Archives, as institutions in charge of preserving knowledge, have to compete with museums and libraries. They are smaller and less known by the public, but their mission and action, as guardians of authenticity, are well known by political decision

makers. Archives took an important part in inquiries concerning the restitution of plundered goods and compulsory labor during the Nazi period. The technical development that led to the emergence of the information society permits offering online access to digitized holdings. In the world of digital data, archives have competitors such as technicians, companies, associations and libraries. They have to develop strategies to maintain their role. Governments and record creating agencies have to be convinced that long-term preservation of electronic documents, the major concern of contemporary archives, needs special skill. Appraisal should not be handled by junior clerks in each office without regulations and without having in mind the future needs of the society. The author concludes that in order to improve the situation the archivists have to offer better services such as more detailed descriptions and to improve the quality of the description. This can only be done with the help of qualified staff. More detailed description creates added value by opening possibilities for the combination scattered information.

Antonio MONTEDURO, *Instruments of Democracy: Archives in the Present-Day European Society* (337)

In their history, and in History, archives have been cumulating many and various functions and values. In the global society of the beginning of the third millennium, archives took another new role that becomes obvious in social and political times of crisis: the role of instruments of democracy. With the unstoppable proliferation of sensitive data referring to individuals and to the State, the protection thereof, combined with the possibility of unrestricted access to them by persons concerned, is important enough to be taken as a standard of good governance, a criterion of the democratic credibility of the State. It is not surprising that, in the last two decades, both international and national professional associations and national institutions dedicated an important part of their theoretical and practical activities to the issue of access, so as to secure one of the fundamental human rights: the right to knowledge. The guidelines and studies they developed are aiming to give full transparency to the production, management and preservation of archival documentation. The paper lists an impressive number of statements, recommendations, resolutions and reports adopted by various EU bodies, the Council of Europe and the International Council on Archives that led to a long series of legislative initiatives regarding transparency and accessibility. In view of these developments, one can safely conclude that rather than mere cultural goods, archives are the very engines of social progress, and of the participation of civil society in the life of a nation.

Milan SELAN, *The Role of the Civil Society Associations in the Development of the Archives' Know-How* (341)

The introductory part of the article outlines the role played by associations in Slovenia. Media.doc - Association of experts in Informatics, Documentation and Micrographics, was founded in 1995 for disseminating the knowledge and skills required for mastering the new information technologies, which have transformed the archival field. Through the DOK_SIS international symposia, consultancy on narrower problems organization of workshops and club activities and through the explication of the relevant international standards, the experts of the Association lend assistance to the creators, managers and users of electronic records. The Association also offers its contribution for developing and amending legal and regulatory texts applicable to its field of competence.

Zdenka SEMLIČ RAJH, *Higher Quality of Archival Information: Better Services for Users* (349)

Against the background of the large-scale political and social changes, which occurred in the last decades and of the changes, which affected, in this context, the creation and the management of archives, the author raises a series of questions concerning the quality of the information provided to the users of archives. To be considered of high quality, the information has to be objective, comprehensive and pluralistic. The article proposes a series of criteria for evaluating the quality of information, emphasizing however the uncertainties inherent in any attempt to assess the credibility and the reliability of the archival sources described and the information supplied by the archivist. Quality is a subjective notion. Ultimately, the user will judge on the value of the information that was made available to him.

Bogdan Florin POPOVICI, *National Archives of Romania and Archival Strategies: A Brief Historical Analysis* (355)

The history of Romanian State Archives started in 1831/1832. Since then, four periods can be

identified. During the first phase, between 1831-1925, the role of the institution changed. In 1859, the two central archives, simple repositories for the storage of the records of central government agencies, placed under the authority of the Ministry of Justice (Moldavia) and the Ministry of Interior (Wallachia), merged. The new State Archives became a centre for the preservation of historical documents, under the authority of the Ministry for Education. The second phase (1925-1951), began with the adoption of a new Archives Act conferring a professional profile and scholarly status to the State Archives. Besides the journal *Revista Arhivelor*, launched in 1924, the Archives published archival technical studies, handbooks and documentary sources. The Communism brought for State Archives a third phase (1951- 1989/1996). Defined as both a repository of historical sources and a guardian for history, the institution placed under the authority of the Ministry of Interior, passed by a dramatic change and went through a period of real professional and infrastructural development, inspired by the model of the USSR. After the fall of the Communism, the (now) National Archives is facing the problem of a new world, both Capitalist and postmodern, and the new challenges seem to overwhelm the institutions and the archivists. Despite the conviction of the author that tightening of relationship with the administration for managing records and despite an increase of the number of users, the reality shows that "archival policy" depends mainly on political decision-makers and their culture. Bearing in mind the Romanian archival tradition and the postmodern realities, the author raises the issue of the need for a new archival strategy.

Jovan POPOVIC, Position, Impact and Role of Archival Legislation in the Society in all Segments of its Development (365)

The article is based on the international experience and more particularly on that of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The history of archives from a legislative point of view went through three periods: a period when there was no archival legislation; the period of chancery regulations; and the period of systematic legislation for the protection of archives. In the age of democracy, the archives protect the citizens' right to historical truth. The growing complexity of the scholarly work of the archivist requires a solid intellectual preparation. The functioning of the archival institutions, the preservation of the records and the relationship with the government agencies is governed by law. The penal law protects the archives against theft, destruction and unauthorized export. Perpetrators of such offences are brought before a Criminal court. The purpose of punishment is to prevent the perpetrator to make a new criminal offence.

Miroslav NOVAK, Opportunitites and Pitfalls of Communication Channels Between Archives and Modern Society (373)

The professional issues, connected with the actual communication between the archives and modern information society, request more and more attention. New types of communication channels are opening new possibilities and raise new archival professional questions. Contemporary archivists should be aware that modern, generally accepted technology solutions might not be suitable for transmitting information on archival theory and practice to the public. Archives have developed through time and space different types of channels for communication with society. While some entities of the communication channels, e.g. human individuals and paper records stay unchanged, the elements directly dependent on technology develop at a rapid pace. Dependence of the communication channels from the general technological development demands of archival professionals new professional considerations, activities and solutions. It is always necessary to test the adequacy of archival professional procedures in the segments of all kinds of mapping and all types of use of archival material.

Majella Marjorie TAN MARQUEZ, Archives Facelift: an Aeon of Transformation (383)

The paper brings in light and analyses the impact of the e-revolution on the archival field in Sabah. The first part relates the history of record creation and preservation from the late 19th century, through successive regimes, to the current status, based on the Sabah State Records and Archives Enactment 2007. The second part goes through the issues connected with the preservation of the various carriers. Paper records are subject to permanent degradation because of acidity. Audio-visual records are converted into digital form in order to preserve the originals. Public administration started to use electronic technologies in the late 1970s. Under the Chief Minister's authority, they were gradually generalized in all government departments. The article follows the institutional and technological steps that led to the current status of electronic record creation and management. The State Archives need to conduct, by priority, a mass deacidification program for safekeeping the paper records. The preser-

vation of and access to authentic electronic records, in the short term (2012-2017) and in the long term, will be addressed beginning next year, subject to the completion of a new archival building. The latest developments and the outline of future plans indicate that the State Archives are entering an aeon of transformation.

LEONOR CALVÃO BORGES, Democracy, governance, citizenship and archives in Portugal (391)

The approval of the European Digital Agenda and subsequent achievement of its objectives, will have obvious repercussions on the relationship between the European democratic states and their citizens, particularly with respect to public sector information. For keeping pace with the changes in governance, which affect directly the creation and preservation of records, the States are obliged to reform their archival legislation. In order to expose the views of the Portuguese legislator on this issue, the article presents the drafts proposed, the debates in Parliament and the approved legislative texts.

Miscellany

Jean Paul NDAYISABA, Burundi Archives in the Present Day Society (397)

Since Independence in 1962, Burundi was the theatre of civil war through four decades. In these circumstances of permanent insecurity, the archives could not be protected. Archival documents were burned, stolen or used as wrapping paper in the markets. Because of the lack of experience and financial means, no adequate care could be taken of the records stored in registries and archive offices. Written and oral sources on the crimes committed during the civil war are being collected under projects funded by Switzerland and Belgium. Poor governance and a too strong centralization of the executive power resulted in a lack of accountability and of respect for the rule of law. To build up democracy and secure good governance, the State has to guarantee the right of the citizens to be informed on the historical truth. It needs therefore well organized record creation and archive services. But as of now, the Burundi Archives are under utilized, under-equipped, understaffed and suffer from the indifference of the decision makers.

Izet ŠABOTIĆ, Selma ISIĆ, Modern Archives and Hybrid Archiving: Advantages, Importance and Protection. Experiences of the Archive of Tuzla Canton with Process of Hybrid Archiving of Funds and Collections Declared as National Cultural Monument (401)

As in most other countries, the generalization of electronic information technologies became the most important issue for the archival institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Recently, the efforts to create a unique Archival information system were accelerated. Because of the increased interest in historical knowledge, the archives have to serve a growing number of users and therefore need electronic tools: databases, digitization and online access. The Archives of Tuzla Canton, founded sixty years ago, responsible for the protection of holdings dating from the late 16th century until today, offer a positive example. 34 collections of high historical value preserved in this institution, were declared national cultural heritage by the State Commission. The digitization of this material is underway.

Alenka ŠAUPERL, The Role of Controlled Vocabularies in Information Databases (411)

Libraries follow international standards and guidelines for subject description of publications and documents, for establishing subject heading lists and devising classification systems. IFLA guidelines for subject heading languages put forward eleven rules to be followed for these operations. The first UNIMARC standard for international exchange of authority data was established in the 1980s. Authority control makes it possible for the user to search a certain topic by one term even when this term may be described by different terms (synonyms). The other advantage is that the relationships among terms may be used to navigate from one subject to a related one, to a broader or narrower topic. Names of creators can be controlled in the same way. Authority control serves the basic functions of the library catalogues and permits to navigate within or outside the databases.

Massimo COLOMBO, Presentation of the "Consortio Humana Res" (423)

The Consortium Humana Res, an aggregation of 5 companies, offers to private and public organizations the whole range of services for the intellectual control, accessibility and physical integrity of their archives: arrangement, cataloguing, cleaning, conservation, digitization, online connection etc. The Consortium is able to guarantee, at the national level, the same quality service for any type of activity. Home page: www.humanares.it/. The presentation of the Consortium is followed by two technical notes:

Charles KECSKEMÉTI: Summary of the Papers Presented at the 2011 Conference of IAS and Published in "Atlanti" 2011, 29-39

Antonio Guillermo Martinez - Andrea De Calisti, The Long-term Preservation of Digital Data (424) and Petr Pridal - Massimo Colombo, Georeference Tool and Rank Searching (425)

IIAS Descriptor (427)

Last page of the volume: Sample lists of IAS descriptors in Slovenian, Hebrew, French, German, Spanish, English and Italian.

