

Editorial

In the year which had been marked by the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as by consequences of earthquakes which occurred in the spring and at the end of 2020 in central Croatia, we are satisfied to present the new issue of *Bulletin d'Archives* in almost complete scope as compared to the usual one.* For the most part we are bereft of reports on events, meetings and conferences traditionally participated by employees of Croatian archives, since some of these events were cancelled or organized solely in virtual space. Events which are presented in spite of this are those that took place *on-line* and can be connected with the topic of working in circumstances of epidemic.

In accordance with the usual concept the largest part of the volume is taken by papers and articles, on this occasion divided into two sections, *Archival Theory and Practice* and *Institutions, Individuals and Families*.

The first section contains five papers.

Nenad Bukvić's paper is dedicated to the public debate on archival regulations based on the example of the passing of the new archives bill, several professional ordinances and planning documents related to development of the archival service. The paper concerns the analysis of its participants according to their affiliation to archival and other interested communities. The public debate has been conducted as obligatory in the territory of Croatia since 2013. It can be said in absolute numbers that the number of participants in the majority of analysed public debates was small, but not negligible, particularly concerning the Archives and Archival Institutions Act, and Ordinance on Managing Records outside the Archival Institutions, which greatly influence the work and the development of the archival service and creators of archives.

In accordance with events that had befallen us in the past period, Tamara Štefanac writes about the role the documentation and documenting extraordinary situations have regarding the protection of cultural heritage. She compares professional guidelines, recommendations and subordinate legislation valid in the territory of the Republic of Croatia in various segments of protection of cultural heritage (archival, museum, librarian and conservation-restauration), with standards and guidelines of the world organizations. Although Croatian legislation does not cover every stage of documenting, certain institutions use some solutions from international standards and guidelines in their practice. Both international and Croatian standards and regulations require tackling the protec-

* Earthquakes epicentres were in the area of Zagreb and Petrinja, which had an effect on the work of the local state archives in Sisak and Zagreb, as well as the Croatian State Archives, the latter also being the publisher of our journal.

tion of digital cultural heritage. The author also notes that documenting before, but also during the extraordinary situations, depends on the implemented education, as well as financial and personnel possibilities of individual institutions.

Josip Mihaljević authored the text on the gamification in archives, comparing the current situation of gamification of the archives with museums and libraries, as well as the current state of educational content in archives compared to the period he elaborated in one of his earlier papers with similar subject matter, when he analysed the representation of educational contents on archives websites, not only in Croatia, but also worldwide. Although only small progress is discernible, they do exist, and with indicated examples the author clearly wants to encourage the Croatian archives to also become more active in this work aspect, so that they could educate and even widen the circle of users.

Ana Bešlić and Andreja Dragojević write about the history of the manual manufacturing of paper and its characteristics, with particular regard to the usage of watermarks in creating this type of paper. With their help in dating the paper and sometimes documents, watermarks are subjected to particular elaboration in large European databases, whereas in Croatian practice creating databases pertaining to watermarks of handmade paper is still in its infancy.

By analysing the authenticity of the chronicle of the Slovenian Fux family from Metlika Rajmund Lamprecht introduces us to the activities of Julius Hermann, its forger. In late 19th century Hermann made a document suggesting this bourgeois family has had peerage since the 16th century, in the same manner he operated on a massive scale during his lifetime, creating numerous similar forgeries in the territory of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. The author analyses the data given in the chronicle and compares them with trustworthy documents, registers, armorials, etc. to show it is a case of a forgery.

The second section entitled *Institutions, Individuals and Families* comprises of three papers. Goranka Kreačič's paper entitled *About the Fux family from Bela Krajina in the personal papers of Emil Laszowski at the Croatian State Archives* concerns the history of the bourgeois Fux family from Metlika, its importance in Slovenia (in the area of Bela krajina), but also the connections with the Croatian families around the border, among others including Šufflay, Kniewald, Vraniczany and others. Ana Tuk acquaints us with the development and the activities of the Varaždin city government during the interwar period i.e. 1918 to 1941, mostly in the context of changed ordinances, but also taking into account archival sources from the State Archives in Varaždin, pointing out at the same time the political context of changes that took place within this body. Boris Suljagić writes on regulation of medicines in the territory of the Banal Croatia from 1869 to 1918, in the period of advancement of the medicines' manufactural production, and about the later development at the same area, during the interwar period, characterized by stronger industrialization of the sector.

In addition, a shorter paper by Nela Kušanić is also featured, regarding the care and protection of archival records from the repository of the Archival Remote Storage Centre Petrinja, part of the State Archives in Sisak, hit by an earthquake. The author emphasizes the importance of investments in the construction of new buildings with reinforced concrete constructions for repositories.

Following are the reports on events, this year in much lesser scope than usual, and reviews of journals regularly reviewed in *Bulletin d'Archives*. The National and University Library in Zagreb hosted from 18th to 20th March 2021 a virtual conference entitled *Solidarity in culture: Heritage protection under conditions of crisis*, whose topic proved increasingly important in Croatia this year. It had the participation of a fascinating 121 speakers and 500 listeners from various parts of the world. June 2021 saw the Croatian State Archives hosting a virtual conference *Cultural-educational activities of archives during the pandemic*, where representatives of the CSA, regional state archives and the Croatian Archival Society debated the activities of archives that took place via Facebook, YouTube or other virtual channels, with an endeavour of archival institutions to remain in regular contact with their users, but also between themselves during the pandemic. It should be pointed out that apart from usual reviews this volume uncommonly reviews the 2020 theme issue of *Aslib – Journal of Information Management* dedicated to the doctoral research in information science and related fields with interdisciplinary aspect. Hrvoje Stančić and Željko Trbušić gave their contribution by authoring one of the papers. This subject undoubtedly influenced the topic of this year's congress of Croatian archivists, due to take place before the end of the year, entitled *On the threshold of the third decade of the 21st century – inclusivity as a condition*. We hope that both the topic and the conclusions reached at the congress will stimulate our collaborators for their future work.

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