Collection

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Collection

The combined authority file permits more effective subject indexing. On the 100th anniversary of its creation, the *Bibliography on Swiss History* looks ahead to the digital future.

"Viva" project

The "Viva" project was launched at the end of 2012. Extending over a number of years, its aim is to bring the collection of association publications, which contains over 45 000 corporate entities, into the electronic age. The first concrete decision was taken in 2013. In future, each institution's website will be collected as well, reflecting the fact that many entities publish additionally or exclusively in electronic form. The websites are being integrated into the Web Archive Switzerland. With the inclusion of electronic publications, the collection is now a hybrid. One of the next questions that the "Viva" project will address is how a fonds of this type can be catalogued and made accessible.

Acquisitions

At the end of 2013 the collection of Helvetica contained 4 367 662 works (2012: 4 304 444). They included 2 913 123 monographs, 836 251 volumes of journals, 475 864 prints, photographs and cards, and 24 111 electronic publications. One focal area in terms of printed matter was the systematic acquisition of publications by non-governmental organisations that had not previously been present. With regard to electronic publications, expansion of the collection was extended in association with partner institutions.

The Swiss Literary Archives added a further ten archives and literary estates, bringing the total to 326.[18] Two archives were donated to the Prints and Drawings Department; including the Federal Archives of Historic Monuments, it now holds a total of 207 individual collections.[19]
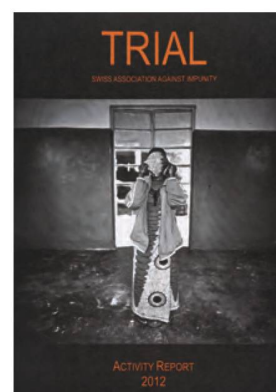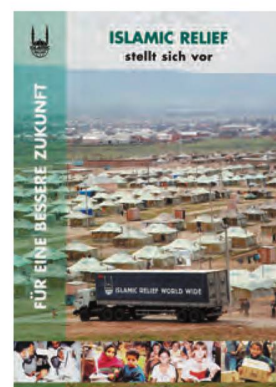
Catalogues

At the end of 2013 the *Helveticat*[20] library catalogue comprised 1 581 851 bibliographic records (2012: 1 549 792) and 280 914 authority records.[21] Around a thousand periodicals were integrated for the first time during the year. Since 2013, subject indexing has been carried out using the German National Library *Gemeinsame Normdatei* (combined authority file, GND), which the NL is also involved in developing. Thanks to improved technical links to the GND, all changes made to the parent file in Frankfurt am Main are carried over automatically, making indexing more efficient and consistent. Extensive work on new functionalities and a new user interface for Helveticat was carried out during the year in review, with the new version scheduled to go live in mid-2014.

The ISSN International Centre is developing the ROAD portal,[22] a directory of open access scholarly resources, with financial assistance from UNESCO. The resources are identified by the national ISSN centres including the ISSN Centre Switzerland, which is based at the NL.

The *HelveticArchives*[23] archive catalogue contained 324 281 records at the end of the year (2012: 278 603). The *Swiss Poster Catalogue* contained 71 199 bibliographic records (2012: 64 232).

The *Bibliography on Swiss History* (BSH)[24] grew from 91 954 bibliographic entries to 94 371. The BSH celebrated its 100th birthday in 2013. To mark the occasion, representatives of the historical bibliographies in Switzerland came together for a workshop, the first such gathering since the

18 Holdings listed in the *Index of manuscript collections*. There is a time delay in the inclusion of new acquisitions.
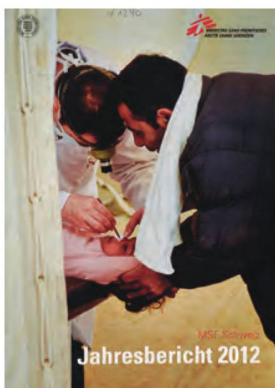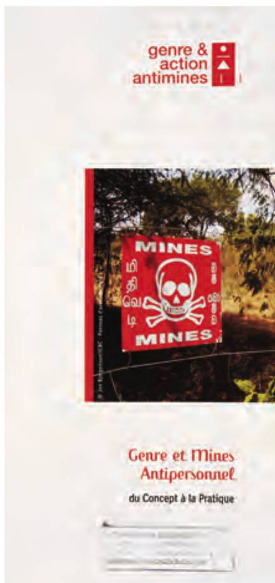19 For notable acquisitions see p. 9ff.
20 www.nb.admin.ch/helveticat
21 The number of authority records is reported for the first time in this annual report.
22 Beta version: http://road.issn.org
23 www.nb.admin.ch/helveticarchives
24 www.nb.admin.ch/bsh

1990s. They discussed the future requirements for this kind of bibliography and ways of working more closely together. The BSH itself aims to grow in three directions: linking its data with other data, integrating it into relevant metacatalogues such as swissbib,[25] and expanding it to include digital periodicals.

Preservation and Conservation

In all, 40 481 new publications underwent conservation treatment during 2013 (2012: 37 993), 4382 protective covers were manufactured (2012: 2863) and 413 publications were repaired (2012: 198).

Because the NL is a lending library as well as an archive library, it has to devote considerable resources to the long-term conservation of its publications. Finding methods among the many available that are both appropriate to the various documents and economically justifiable is essential.

The end of the mass paper deacidification process is in sight. Just 22 116 documents with a total weight of 19.8 tons were deacidified (2012: 31 690 documents, 33.2 tons). Most of the material that was suitable for mass deacidification has now been treated, and the programme will be completed in 2014. The suitability of the remaining fonds for deacidification will mostly have to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

A final decision has been taken that the volumes of newspapers will not be deacidified. The main reason for this was that it does not reduce the brittleness of the paper. In future, the information contained in the newspapers will be safeguarded by means of digitisation and simultaneous microfilming. Access will be provided electronically, thereby protecting the fragile original volumes.

Digital Collection

Expansion of the collection of digital publications continues through cooperations. The cantonal and university libraries, official bodies and publishers were joined for the first time in 2013 by a distributor. Based in Lucerne, mbassador creates electronic versions of printed books from many Swiss publishers and distributes them through a variety of platforms. Subject to the consent of the publisher concerned, mbassador will also supply these digital books to the NL's digital archive.

At the end of 2013 the digital collection comprised 2.4 TB of data (2012: 1.6 TB). A total of 30 524 publications were available, some two thirds of them consisting of digitally born publications such as websites, dissertations, periodicals and monographs. The remainder are digitised versions of printed works. Although the latter are freely accessible (this being a condition for digitisation by the NL), copyright restrictions apply to the former. Depending on the agreement with the legal owners, online publications are also freely available via the Internet or may only be consulted at special access points in the NL or partner institutions.

Illustrations on pp. 13/14:
Publications by non-governmental organisations from the collection of association publications, © the organisations concerned

25 www.swissbib.ch