
PREFACE

The Editorial Preface to the first issue of *Bibliografijos žinios* says: "This selection of articles will be a platform for everyone who wishes to share their experience and knowledge and present their opinion on some theoretical or practical issue <...>. We expect that it will include articles by foreign bibliographers introducing development and state-of-the-art of national bibliographies in various countries as well as problems that they are facing and ways to find solutions." This year marks this publication's 20th anniversary. When looking back into these two decades, I would like to recollect its beginnings and objectives. In 1995, *Bibliografijos žinios* ("Bibliographical News") changed its title and started to be issued as the selection of research materials *Bibliografija*. Over the years, it was not only the publication's design that was changing and getting more and more elegant – the content was evolving as well. Alongside with national bibliography issues, it presented materials concerning retrospective conversion of catalogues and the national bibliography, building of the virtual library, standardisation of processes within libraries, museums and archives, and collaboration between memory institutions.

When going through published volumes of *Bibliografija*, it becomes obvious that it has always reflected technology-inspired changes within cultural heritage institutions in Lithuania and the world over.

It is worth remembering another goal that this publication has undertaken. Articles are published in Lithuanian, with a major focus on translations of materials by foreign authors. Such policy was approved by the editorial board given the fact that publication of articles in Lithuanian would indisputably contribute to fostering of the Lithuanian language and development of the national scientific terminology. This approach still holds valid due to today's globalisation and universality as well as strong presence of the English language. A major contribution to the development of Lithuanian scientific terminology is done by the Lithuanian Standardisation Board's Techni-

cal Committee LST TC 47 "Information and Documentation", established within the National Library under the initiative of the Centre of Bibliography and Book Science in 1998, through consolidating archives, libraries and museums for joint standardisation efforts.

Following principles and objectives outlined for *Bibliografija* two decades ago, the present volume presents articles in Lithuanian by Lithuanian and foreign authors on the following topics: open bibliographic data (Patrick Danowski), Europeana data model (Martin Doerr et al.), initiatives to make standard library metadata models and structures available to the Semantic Web (Gordon Dunsire, Mirna Willer), linked data for libraries (Jan Hanne-mann et al.), semantic multimedia libraries (Jan Nandzik et al.), porting library vocabularies to the Semantic Web (Bernard Vatant), initiatives on digitisation of the Lithuanian cultural heritage (Regina Varnienė-Janssen et al.), standardisation within memory institutions (Nijolė Bliūdžiuvienė), the role of librarians in cultivating information literacy (Vincas Grigas), the 1910-11 Diary of the Vilnius Public Library (Arvydas Pacevičius), missals preserved at the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department of the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania (Agnė Zemkajutė), and libraries and archives of the Counts Kossakowskises (Teresa Mackevič).

Research and best practice that *Bibliografija* has been publicising since 1993 has got into the focus of professionals of Lithuania, and a considerable part of the published materials has been applied for improving bibliographic processes, building virtual libraries and enriching study programmes.

On this anniversary occasion we would like to genuinely thank all the authors for contributing their material, the Editorial Board for their effort in reviewing the articles and their support as well as the National Library's Publishing Department for excellent cooperation.

Regina Varnienė-Janssen