



Project  
**Cross Border E-archive**  
ESTLATRUS/2.2/ELRI-167/2011/21

**NEWSLETTER**  
April – June ` 2013



Representatives of St. Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre Maria Kuzko (from the left), Ekaterina Polyakova, Maria Kuznetsova and expert of the National Archives of Latvia Valdis Stals

To begin with – a very warm welcome to the second edition of the Newsletter in 2013! We are happy to see the Newsletter has become a regular feature within the Cross Border E-archive's calendar and as before – there is a lot of catching up to do. I hope looking back at some of the events will give a good perspective on the Project's development, and even more – that we will have some very productive months ahead of us this year!

Once again, we find ourselves reflecting on turbulent reporting and operational events that have taken place over the past months. In order to receive the next payment from the managing bodies and continue implementation of Project's activities, actual expenditure verifications in all partners' organisations started in May. Unfortunately, despite our on-going efforts, this process has not been finished yet. Furthermore, the agreements made between partners during the steering group meeting in Riga (Latvia) in March have not been carried out consistently, which has resulted in a rather slow progress of the Project in the most recent months.

This reminds me of the Project's values that, in order to succeed should be much more than carefully-constructed words on paper. Each partnership is based on mutual trust and understanding, which also includes respect for Project's values and everyone's own responsibilities. They guide our everyday work and undoubtedly reflect that we should be treating others as we would like to be treated ourselves and should have a passion for the partnership and for succeeding in achieving results. Without these partnerships, we would not be the Project we are today. I hope everyone involved in the Project takes it close to their hearts and does everything according to their best abilities and intentions.

Despite certain challenges faced during the Project development process, there is a reasonable amount of achievements to be proud of.

The website of the E-archive project has been successfully launched and is located at the address:

[www.earchive-estlatrus.eu](http://www.earchive-estlatrus.eu). It provides background information about the project as well as a brief outline. It also provides a complete list of the project's partners along with their contact information.

Our first report and proposed budget changes have been approved. We have held a range of regular local meetings across all involved countries to ensure the best possible results, and our commitment to 'better' never stops. We successfully represented the project in the open-air exhibition „Enjoy the Hansa Route through Latvia, Estonia and Russia!” within the Annual Event of the ENPI Estonia-Latvia-Russia CBC Programme in Sigulda (Latvia) on June 11.

Furthermore, the common list of archival materials selected for digitalization is currently being prepared by experts of the National Archives of Latvia. Latvian and Estonian partners have started to plan their archival expeditions in the neighbouring countries to finalize what will be digitalized and included in the Portal. Colleagues in Russia are working hard to find a solution on mutual relationship between Saint-Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre and the Archival Committee of Saint-Petersburg.

It promises to be another exciting and challenging quarter for E-archive in summer 2013. And, with the hard work and passion of our people, it promises to be a successful one.

I wish everyone an active summer ahead and lots of energy to continue the good work in the next period!

Indra Auzane, Project manager

**TABLE OF CONTENT**

- II. Participation in the Annual Event of the Programme - Enjoy the Hansa Route through Latvia, Estonia and Russia!
- III. Actualities on the implementation of the Project activities: **RESEARCH.**
- IV. Actualities on the implementation of the Project activities:
  - **DIGITALISATION AND PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT;**
  - **INFORMATION AND VISIBILITY**



**Texts are prepared by**

Ilma Elsberga, Indra Auzane, Ideju Forums, National Archives of Latvia, National Archives of Estonia and St. Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre

**Photos taken by** Valdis Stals, Indra Auzane, Maive Murk, Sandra Vigante and Ilma Elsberga

**Design by** Ilma Elsberga

## PARTICIPATION IN THE ANNUAL EVENT OF THE PROGRAMME – ENJOY THE HANSA ROUTE THROUGH LATVIA, ESTONIA AND RUSSIA!

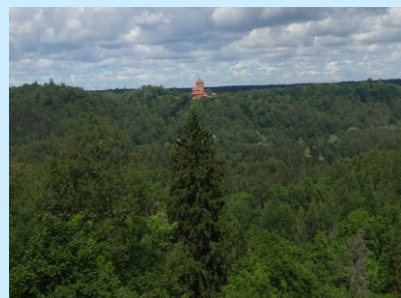
On June 10 and 11 the Annual Event of the Estonia-Latvia-Russia Cross-Border Cooperation Programme within European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument 2007-2013 was held in Sigulda (Latvia) with the focus on tourism development as the better promoter of cross-border cooperation. This event was also attended by representatives from three project "Cross Border E-archive" partner-institutions – Culture Information Systems Centre, the National Archives of Latvia and St. Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre.

The Event lasted for 2 days according to the following programme: On Monday, June 10 the Conference and Panel Discussion „Support to the Cross Border Cultural and Active Tourism in Latvia, Estonia and Russia” took place. The opening speeches and presentations were held by the officials of the Programme and representatives from the ministries of Estonia, Latvia and Russia. The audience was also introduced to the Hanseatic League, its historical origins and the potential and possibilities of the brand “Hansa”.

Five projects informed the audience about the achieved results, experience gained and future plans to ensure sustainability. To witness tangible results three projects’ site visits through Sigulda and Ligatne Nature Park were organized.

On Tuesday, June 11 Open-Air Project Exhibition „Enjoy the Hansa Route through Latvia, Estonia and Russia!” took place with an opportunity for participants of the Event as well as inhabitants, visitors and guests of Sigulda to make journey through the improvised new Via Hanseatica Tourism Route in the Castle of Livonian Order. Ancient 19th century maps with postal roads connecting Hanseatic cities as well as photos and plans of the old post stations and coaches (which are stored in archives of Estonia and Latvia) were exposed in the stand of the project “Cross Border E-archive” among other promotional materials of the project. All visitors were introduced to project materials exhibited by experts from the National Archives of Latvia – project manager Valdis Stals and postal communications specialist Dr. hist. Parsla Petersons.

### Memorable moments from the Annual Event in Sigulda:



# ACTUALITIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

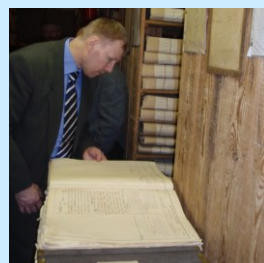
## RESEARCH

### National Archives of Latvia (NAL)

Until February 15, 2013 the working group of LNA has revealed in Latvian Historical Archives Reference System appropriate funds and groups of documents for the project:

- 1) The 1st All-Russian Census documents for 1897 – 17203 sheets relating to Russia: Porkhov district Vishgoroda and Verkhniy Solon parish, Ostrovo district Tolkovo, Gusanova, Lisina and Zherebcova parishes; and to Estonia: Pärnu district Kilingi (Kurkund), Vana Vändra (Alt-Fennern) Laiksaar (Laiksaar) Latre (Moiseküll) parishes and Arensburg district Leisi (Laisberg) and Pärsama (Persama) parishes, Togu (Torkenhof) and Lielkarmeles (Gross-Karmel) parishes, Pärnu city, Tartu, Võru and Arensburg districts Orthodox church books (funds 232 and 6551) – 320 files;
- 2) Latvian Lutheran church books (Estonian parishes) – 33 files;
- 3) Maps and plans– 150 cases related to Latvian, Estonian and partly to the Russian territory;
- 4) Prominent persons:
  - a. Krisjanis Valdemars, political and social activist, journalist – 19 files;
  - b. Georgs Fridrihs Parrots, physicist, naturalist, Tartu University rector, 1795-1853, 15 files.

Altogether were selected: 17203 documents (sheets) and 2228 files. During the period of April – June about 1400 student and professor personnel files have prepared for digitalization and about 150 of the mentioned files have been delivered to the laboratory for the digitalization.



### National Archives of Estonia (NAE)

The archive has focused on the research in direction of Latvia (Estonians in Latvia, Latvians in Estonia) and continued the list of Estonian settlements in the Government of St. Petersburg. The archive has composed following documents:

- 1) a preliminary list of relevant literature about Estonians in Latvia (12 titles);
- 2) a short overview about migration of Estonians to Latvian territory;
- 3) based on literature, a preliminary list of settlements and towns where Estonians lived in Latvian territory was composed (includes 82 place names at the moment). It will be a helpful resource for genealogists as well as an important tool for archivists for working in the Latvian archives;
- 4) a list of settlements where Latvians lived in Estonia (22 place names at the moment), also the number of Latvians and the congregations with the fond numbers;
- 5) a list of congregations where Estonians belonged (ca. 40 items) in the area of the Lutheran Consistory of St. Petersburg;
- 6) a list of settlements and towns where Estonians lived in the Governorate of St. Petersburg was amended to help ascertain cartographic materials in the archives in St. Petersburg;
- 7) list of files about Baltic German family Wrangell member Ferdinand Friedrich von Wrangel; study (ca. 10 p) about Friedrich von Wrangel, his family and service;
- 8) amendable list of files that are of interest for future Estonian Portal users in Latvian and Russian archives;
- 9) amendable list of files that ENA offers to digitalize for partners.

On April 17-19 Project manager and external expert worked in NAL in Riga exploring the archival funds of Riga Polytechnic Institute and other materials concerning Estonian area that might be interesting for wider audience. On June 20 Project manager of NAE and Project assistant met with Project manager of NAL in Tartu. The materials to be digitised (matriculation books and student records) were introduced.

### State Unitary Enterprise St. Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre (SPb IAC)

The list of funds stored in the NAL provided by Latvian archival experts was discussed and analysed by Russian archival experts. In the framework of project activities implementation the partners have made a conclusion to sign up the agreement between Archival Committee of St. Petersburg and SPb IAC regulating the following obligations of parties:

- Organizing of Latvian and Estonian archival experts' trip to St. Petersburg Archival funds in order to implement researches on the stored materials (in August-September);
- List of documents prepared by Archival Committee of St. Petersburg for further digitalization and placement on e-Portal (on condition, access to them is not restricted);
- Formation of expert work group within the Archival Committee to conduct researches and make decisions within the Project.

## DIGITALISATION AND PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT

### National Archives of Estonia (NAE)

Maps of the project area from second half of the 19th century are digitalized.

The work on research has been carried on and this has focused on student database in e-archives.

Researcher and Project assistant have tested different principles to ascertain presentable set of student files to be digitalized. It was decided that NAE will digitalize in chronological order starting from the files of the students who were matriculated in 1890. That selection will help to make the Portal more attractive for larger public as there are more photos in the personal files starting from 1890. Entering the data about each student, comparing different name forms and reconciling the persons with right files also took place.

Digitalization of student files has been started.

### Ideju Forums (IF)

Discussed technical specification necessity, structure, possible draft version with SPbIAC, viewed submitted example.

There is developed usability design handbook draft version which was discussed with several experts. Discussion included questions about universal design principles, which will be included in the Portal conception in order the content to be more available for people with different needs and possibilities.

In order to develop technical specification, there are received first content units as examples from NAL and NAE which will be digitalized, namely, IF has received few student file examples.

In March 2013 a licence for e-archive Portal development necessary database managing system software was acquired.

### State Unitary Enterprise St. Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre (SPb IAC)

For further works on the Platform concept development it is needed to receive confirmed list of documents from Archival Committee of St. Petersburg for digitalization and placement on the Portal. After all the work steps are coordinated among the partners, SPb IAC is to prepare the final e-Portal Cross Border e-Archive concept and develop its server part.

At the moment within the preliminary activities' preparation SPb IAC has made an analysis of the existing platforms for further development of the Portal in order to identify the best Platform solution.

Works on software set up, artificial language analysis and metadata database development have started. A tender was held and works on technical project of access control centre, programming of access control centre were started.

Technical requirements for activities within the project were worked out.

## INFORMATION AND VISIBILITY

### Culture Information Systems Centre (CISC)

On April 18 the chairman of Project's steering group and director of CISC Armands Magone and other representatives of CISC participated at the Annual Latvian Librarians' conference "Libraries nowadays - inspiring, amazing, an encouraging!" which was organized in the Aula Magna of the University of Latvia.

The representative of CISC Kristine Paberza presented to the audience information about the project "Cross Border E-archive" and identified opportunities that will be offered through the e-archive.



On May 14 the Project Information Day for students of the Faculty of Social Science (Information and Library Studies) of the University of Latvia took place in the office of CISC. Project manager Indra Auzane informed students about the main objectives and eventual impact of the Project. A vibrant discussion followed the presentation: students asked questions about a variety of practical management and implementation issues of the project "Cross-border E-archive", e.g. the working language of the project and education of the project team members, as well as opportunities which will be offered for students through the e-archive.

### State Unitary Enterprise St. Petersburg Information and Analytical Centre (SPb IAC)

SPb IAC PR specialists are developing the ideas for two publications which will be produced within the framework of the Project – "Archives & Digitalization in Russia" and "Deployment of the e-archive system in Russia".