



ФОНДАЦИЯ
НАЦИОНАЛНА АКАДЕМИЧНА
БИБЛИОТЕЧНО-ИНФОРМАЦИОННА СИСТЕМА

КЛИК КЪМ ЗНАНИЕТО

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Approved by:


Sabina Aneva
(NALIS Foundation
Executive Director)



ANNUAL REPORT

of the activities of the NALIS Foundation in 2016

In 2016 the NALIS project, funded by the America for Bulgaria Foundation (ABF), entered its eight year. It laid the foundations of a contemporary library and information system in Bulgaria in accordance with the rapid development of advanced technologies. The main goal has been achieved – development, enrichment and promotion of a union online catalogue ([NALIS Union Catalogue](#)) for integrated search of bibliographic information, helping scholars, university students, professors and other users.

The one-year funding contract that was signed with ABF in June 2016 allowed NALIS to fully function on a reduced budget, while continuing to explore different options for transition to a new sustainable institutional model and for a transfer of the NALIS features after the end of the ABF funding in June 2017. Regarding this, there have been intensive discussions with representatives of the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Finances and the *SS. Cyril and Methodius* National Library. The negotiations with government institutions were unsuccessful, which steered NALIS' efforts towards 3 distinct directions: transition to open source software; participation in EU projects; offering library software services.

Following the NALIS Board of Directors (BD) decisions, the migration of digital collections of NALIS, Central Library of BAS (CL-BAS), *St. Kliment Ohridski* University Library (SUL), NBU Library, AUBG Library and *Ivan Vazov* Public Library to the new digital library [NALIS Repository](#) started in January 2016. The repository has been adapted by NALIS' programmers on the basis of open source software. In



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July the Board of Directors took a decision to develop a library system **NALIS Catalogue** that is also based on open source products. This step allowed the foundation to discontinue its ExLibris contracts (except for Primo), thus saving considerable financial resources.

Meanwhile the usability of NALIS Union Catalogue has increased nearly three times. The foundation is evolving into a desired partner for EU projects. In the past year it was invited to participate in 6 projects concerning protection of cultural and historical heritage, one of which has already been approved (starting January 1, 2017) and three other are pending approval.

I.

Expansion of the NALIS Project range

No new members were added to the library and information system, but certain expiring contracts for associated membership have been renewed (MU Plovdiv, Trakia University – Stara Zagora, University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy).

In November the possibility for demand of the digital repository abroad was examined. After series of discussions with leading scholars and a US Library of Congress representative a conclusion was made that Slavic studies are not among the priorities of the American universities and they are not interested in investing in this kind of database.

II.

Software platform for the NALIS network development

On June 10 the licensing and maintenance contracts for Aleph, DigiTool, SFX/MetaLib and Rosetta were discontinued. A lower price was negotiated for Primo and a new 5 year contract was signed.

The efforts for enrichment of the NALIS Union Catalogue continued throughout the year. They included updates of the bibliographic records of the associated with the library network institutions.

- **Primo**

The main work on Primo included update and integration of the bibliographic records and technical maintenance. The NL records were updated (41,703 new records), as well as these of CL-BAS and SUL. The newly integrated data were the records of the Romanian Academic Library, the Cyrillo Methodian Research Center



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at BAS and the National Centre for Information and Documentation (NCID). In June the system was reconfigured in connection with the ceasing of the SFX and MetaLib software programmes. The records of the new digital library NALIS Repository were integrated into Primo.

- **NALIS Repository**

The work on the new digital library continued. The main activities included migration of the collections from DigiTool to **NALIS Repository**, installations of client software in the SU, NBU and BAS, training of the respective libraries staff. In A workgroup was established in May in order to specify the terminology in the Bulgarian interface of NALIS Repository.

Along with that, a series of configurations, adaptations and updates were made to the open source software, underlying the digital library.

- **Aleph**

The bibliographic data of the Cyrillo Methodian Research Center were integrated into the Aleph library system of BAS. The logical library that was meant to serve their needs was configured. Corrections were made to the encodings of the Bulgarian interface, their database was published. The client interface was edited.

The associated members, who were provided with the ExLibris software for shared use, were informed about the discontinuation of its maintenance and were offered annexes to their membership contracts, reflecting the changes and the migration to the new system NALIS Catalogue.

- **NALIS Catalogue**

In January a trial installation was made of the open source library system Koha. In July the Board of Directors took a decision to develop **NALIS Catalogue** based on that same software. The configurations of different modules, the interface translation into Bulgarian, the migration from Aleph of the records of the American Research Center in Sofia, VUZF University and *Ivan Vazov* Public Library of Plovdiv continued until the end of the year.

- **Interlibrary Loan Module**

The Interlibrary Loan module of the NALIS Union Catalogue was used 169 times throughout the year (802 times in total since its launch in November 2013). The following chart reflects the monthly usage:

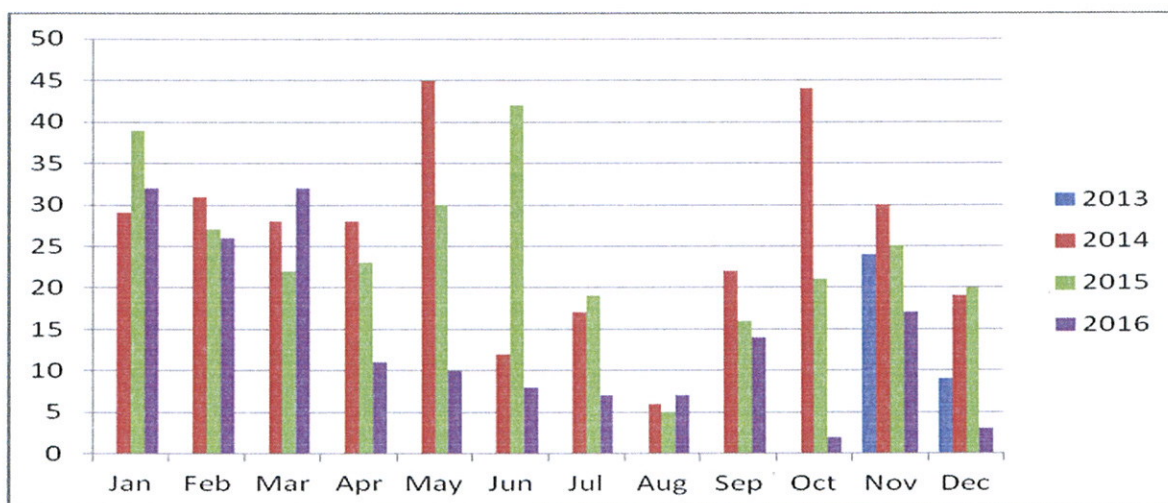


Fig. 1

III. Retroconversion

The project for retroconversion of library funds of the founding libraries and the National Library ended successfully in January. The overall number of retroconverted records from the start of the initiative in June 2010 reached 1,160,380, and the distribution by institutions is represented by the following chart:

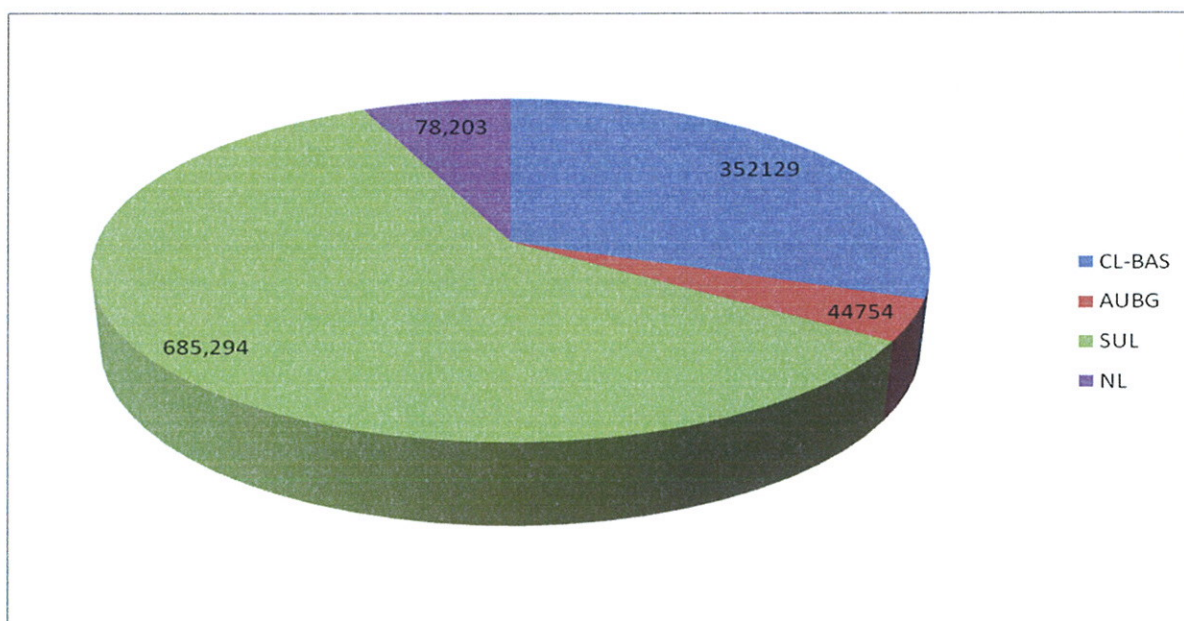


Fig. 2



IV. NALIS Union Catalogue

The overall number of records in the catalogue has increased by 418,872 since December 2015 and amounts to 3,534,730.

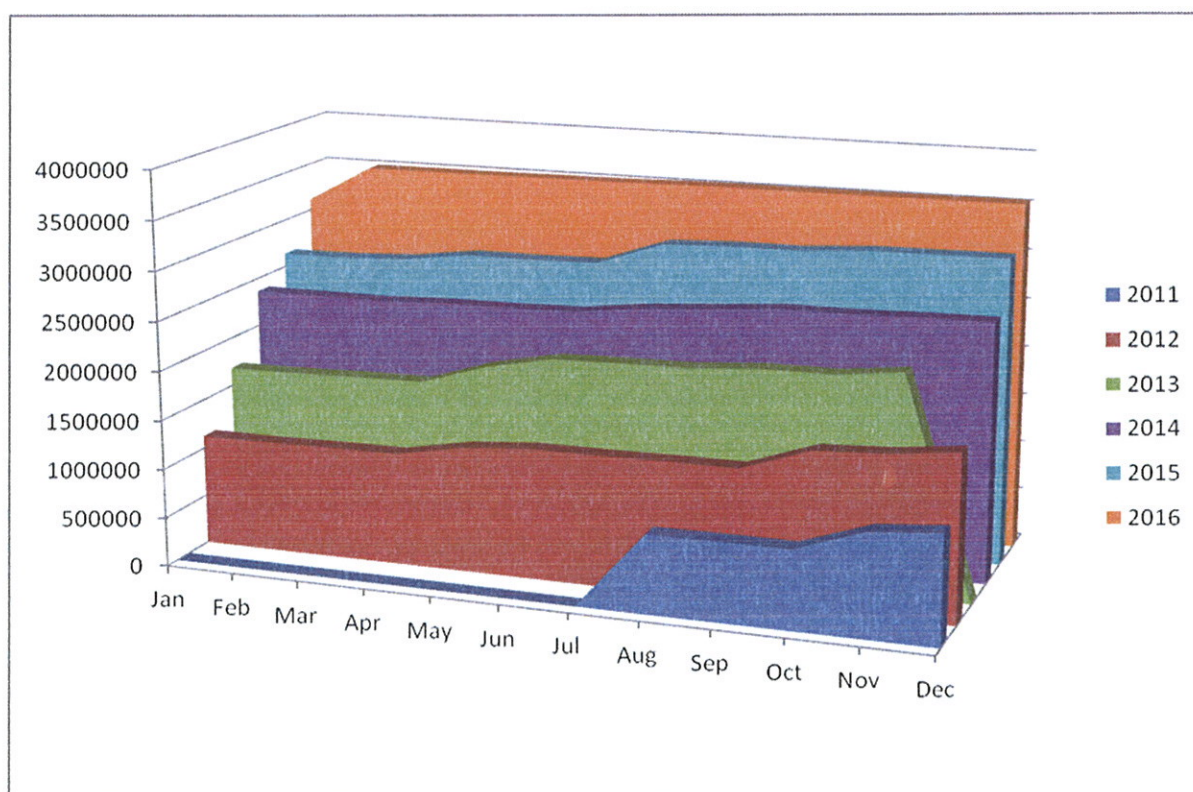


Fig. 3

In 2016 the number of users increased significantly. The rapid change could be attributed to the one-time Facebook advertisement of the NALIS Union Catalogue, followed by a regular Google indexing of our web pages, as well as the free ad campaign Google AdWords aimed especially at NGOs. As a result the catalogue was visited by 74.3% new users (overall of 268,287) in the past year who viewed 884,330 pages.

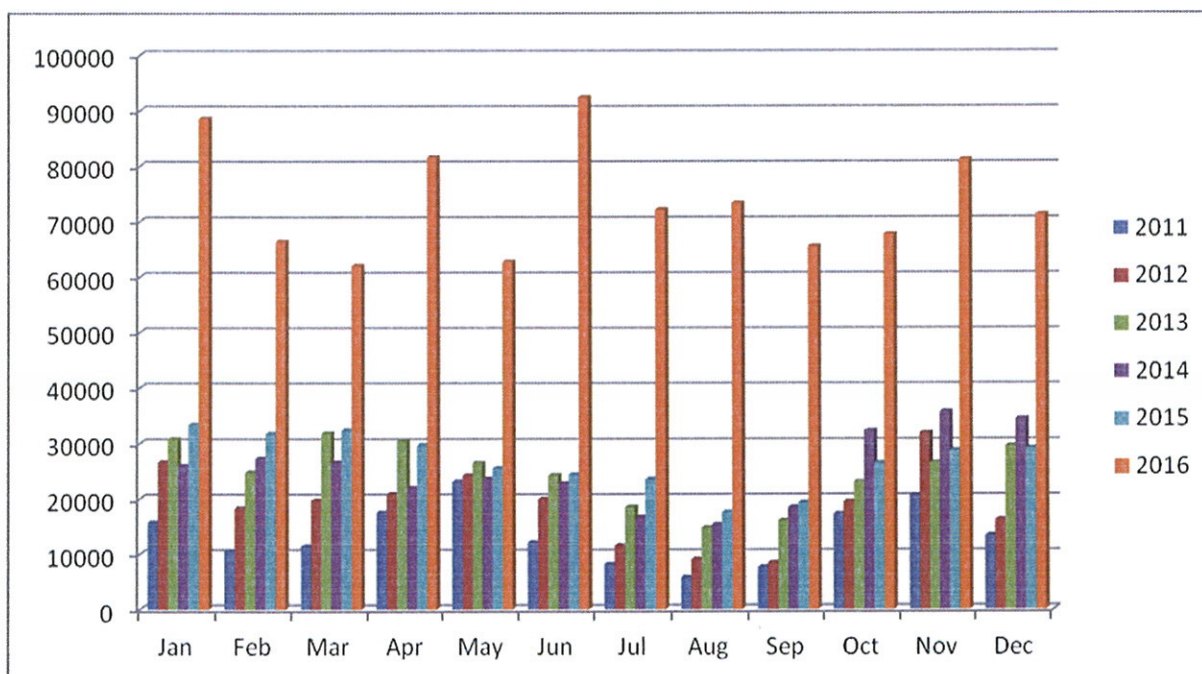


Fig. 4

V. NALIS Repository

The digitisation efforts were temporarily suspended at the beginning of 2016 due to migration from DigiTool to **NALIS Repository** - the new software for digital collections management, developed by the foundation's programming team on the basis of the open source DSpace. In May the library staff of the AUBG, NBU, SU, BAS and the Plovdiv Public Library underwent training for the use of the new system. The next month the active uploading of metadata and scanned images was renewed. By the end of 2016 NALIS Repository increased by 2,406 documents. Along with the NALIS collection of photographs, submitted to the EuropeanaPhotography project, the overall number of objects in the digital library amounts to 23,754. The distribution by institutions is represented in the following chart:



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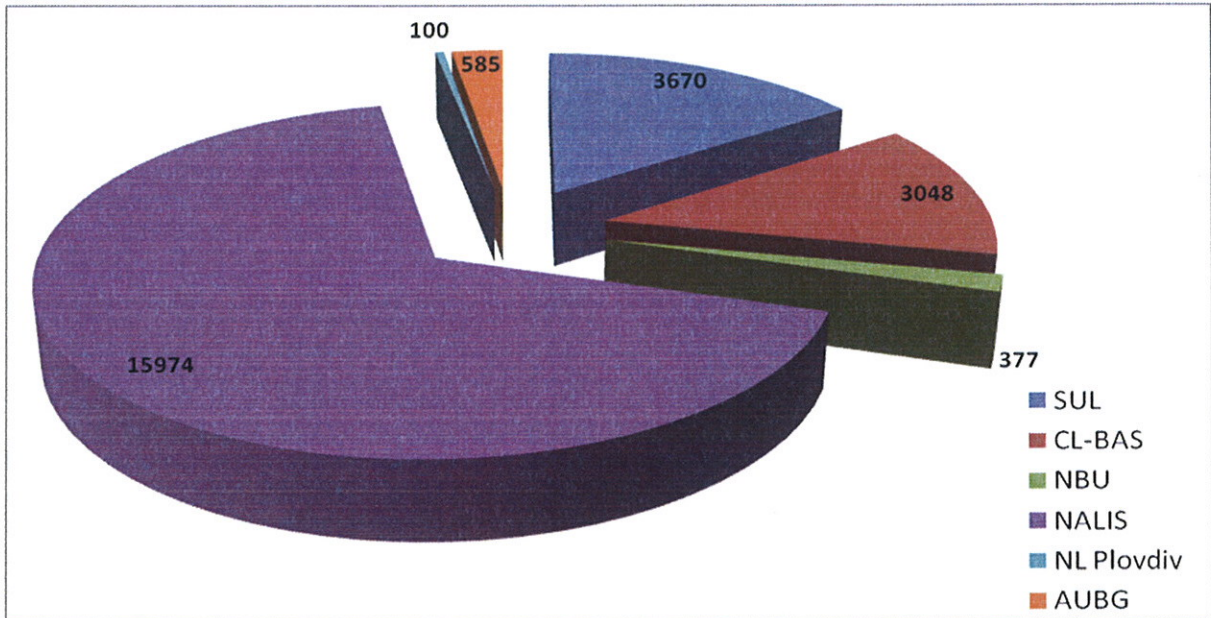


Fig. 5

The contribution by institutions after the launch of NALIS Repository in June is illustrated in the following chart:

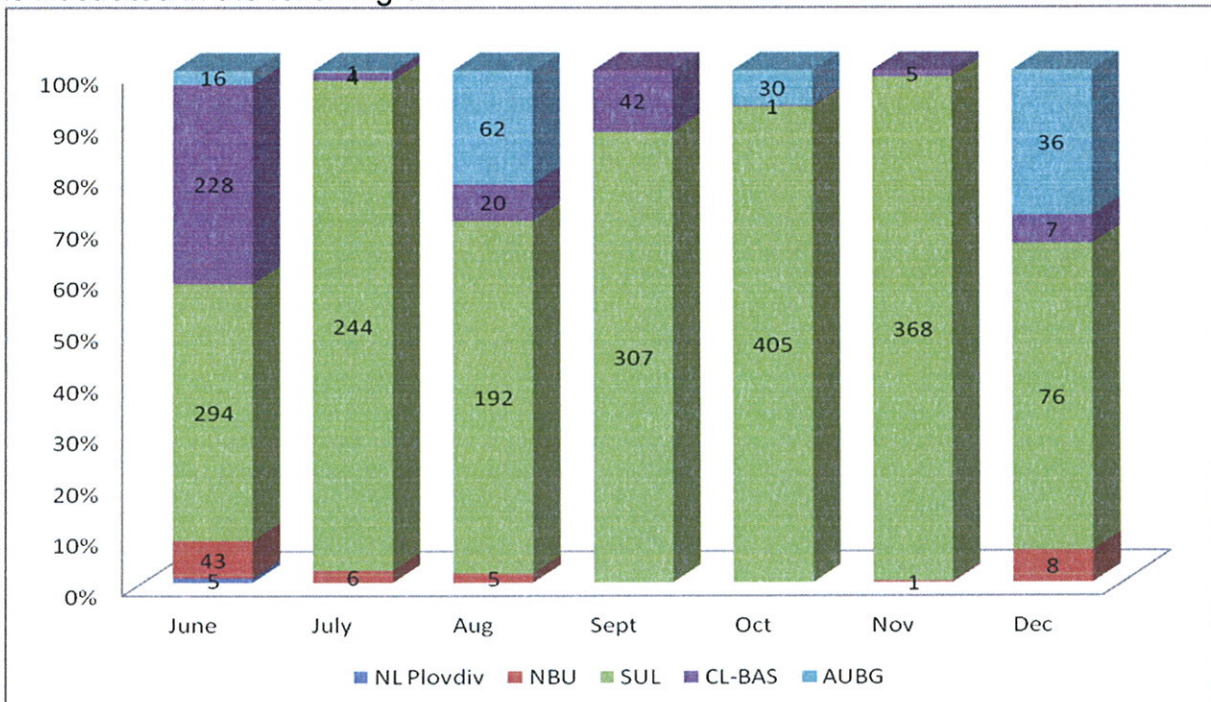


Fig. 6



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Part of the National Library digital collection amounting to 2,633 digital objects, which is not included in NALIS Repository, is available through **NALIS Union Catalogue**.

VI.

Publicity and promotion of the NALIS Foundation activities

The efforts for promotion the NALIS Foundation activities continued throughout 2016. Information for the followers of the NALIS Facebook page was sought and published daily – these were materials often redirecting to the NALIS website, NALIS UC and the new NALIS Repository with the aim of generating additional interest in the project. The websites (of the foundation and the catalogue) were regularly updated in their Bulgarian and English versions. Two issues of the **NALIS Newsletter** were disseminated in **February** and **June**.

The opportunity of a free AdWords campaign was explored and fulfilled. It's a Google ad donation at the amount of 10,000 dollars monthly that is being provided to NGOs from more than 50 countries worldwide. Since its start in March 2016 brought an average 637 new daily visits to the NALIS UC (overall of 185,501) at the amount of 94,138 dollars.

The NALIS Foundation was represented on a series of forums throughout the country. Executive Director Sabina Aneva participated in the *Libraries – a Place for Everybody, a Place for All* National Round Table in May. In June she took part in the BLIA scientific conference *Dynamic Libraries – Access, Development, Changes*; the national meeting of the Scientific Libraries Section *Impulse of Scientific Libraries in Bulgaria* that was held in Plovdiv; a workshop with the directors of regional libraries and IT experts with the aim of structuring a project proposal for application of cloud technologies into library practices. Ms Aneva also attended the master class *Scientific Electronic Resources for Contemporary Scholars and Professors*, organised in October by Sofia University Department of Library Studies, Scientific Information and Cultural Policies and *Index 2000* Company; the *Library Standardisation* National Round Table in the Sofia City Library; and the seminar *Open Access for Open Science* by the Bulgarian Information Consortium. She took part in the two-day National Forum *Libraries Today 2016*, organised in November by the Global Libraries Foundation. The NALIS project was promoted at the EU forum *The Synergies with Research and Innovation Funds: Stairway to Excellence* in June with the presentation *The NALIS Project – implementation of library innovations*; and in October – at the National Round Table *Access to the literary heritage through libraries* in Gabrovo with the presentation *The NALIS Foundation – Answer to the Challenges*.



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In June the Bulgarian newspaper *Kultura* published an interview with Sabina Aneva, titled [About the Digitisation Strategy](#).

VII. International Projects

In 2016 r. the NALIS Foundation applied for funding with the following projects:

- **Hybrid Library Youth Competence: Pathways in Transition from Digital to Virtual (HLYC-PITDV)** by the European programme Erasmus+, in partnership with the SS Cyril and Methodius National Library and the Central Library of BAS. The project was not approved for funding.
- **VENERE – Virtual Museum Network and Road map in Europe** by the programme Horizon 2020, CULT-COOP-08-2016: Virtual museums and social platform on European digital heritage, memory, identity and cultural interaction, in partnership with the Italian Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The result is pending.
- **EXHIBIT – platform Efficient eXposition of cultural Heritage tangiBle ITems** by the European Territorial Cooperation Programme Greece – Bulgaria 2014-2020, in partnership with Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, E.R.F.C. (European Regional Framework for Cooperation) in Thessaloniki, Perperikon Tourist Association and *Obedinenie 1913* Community Centre. The result is pending.
- **FETCH – eFficient managEmenT of Cultural Heritage** by the European Territorial Cooperation Programme Balkan – Mediterranean 2014-2020, in partnership with the Institute for Communication and Computer Systems of the Technical University in Athens, the University of Tirana, Cypres University of Technology and the Greek Ministry of Culture. The result is pending.
- **Strategic partnerships supporting innovation in VET for Digital Library Competences (VET DLC)** by the European programme Erasmus+, in partnership with the SS Cyril and Methodius National Library and the Central Library of BAS. The project was not approved for funding.
- **ART NOUVEAU, Sustainable protection and promotion of Art Nouveau heritage in the Danube region** by the European Territorial Cooperation Programme Danube 2014-2020, in partnership with 10 organisations from 7 countries. The project was approved for funding. It starts January 1, 2017, and will continue for 30 months.



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VIII. Management and Administration

The NALIS Foundation **Board of Directors met 5 times** in 2016.

All monthly **reports** were timely prepared and provided to the Board of Directors and the ABF.

25 January 2017

Mila Kutsarova:
(Project Manager)