

SUBJECT CATALOGUING OF LIBRARY MATERIALS IN A  
NEW TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT  
Experience from Serbia

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# SUBJECT CATALOGUING – QUO VADIS?

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# Introduction

- Library users in the academic libraries of Serbia are mostly:
- Students,
- Postgraduates,
- Researchers,
- Professors and assistant lecturers,
- Etc.

- **COBISS** (Co-operative Online Bibliographic System & Services) is a system which includes the vast majority of **academic libraries** in **Serbia**.
- They may overtake **bibliographic descriptions** from the host in order to download them into their local data base.
- They may also make their own **bibliographic descriptions** visible in the **cumulative catalogue** of **Serbia**.

- This is possible due to the implementation of **national standards** for **bibliographic description** of **library materials**.
- These standards are in accordance with **international standards** for **bibliographic description** of **library materials**.
- Technical base of work is adjusted to the requirements of such standards in the **academic libraries** of **Serbia** included into **COBISS**.

## COBISS in the states/regions of ex-Yugoslavia



Countries/regions which use **COBISS** nowadays are  
(alphabetic order):

- Albania\*
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria\*
- Kosovo
- Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Slovenia

\* States which did not belong to ex-Yugoslavia

- The catalogue of The “Svetozar Marković” University Library:
- <http://www.unilib.rs>



- Technology (gr. téchnē, lógos)

(Лексикон страних речи и израза / Милан Вујаклија, Београд, Просвета, 1980, р. 913.)

- Technology means “the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes, especially in industry”. It is “the branch of knowledge dealing with engineering or applied sciences”.

(<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>)

- The list of performance indicators for national libraries in ISO 28118 includes also the availability of collections through the cataloguing so that the percentage of new titles in national bibliography and the percentage of old and rare materials available through web catalogue should be had in mind.
- It is in the framework of the availability of collections that an average time of the cataloguing of documents is being taken into account. The reason for this is a fast and easy access to bibliographic descriptions.

*(ISO/TR 28118:2009 (Technical report): Information and documentation – Performance indicators for national libraries (Geneva: ISO, 2009) p. 12.*

- COBISS 3 is actually being used in the academic libraries of Serbia in order to catalogue library materials.
- However COBISS 3 is also being used in the National Library of Serbia for cataloguing library materials.
- The classification of these materials unavoidably follows the process of cataloguing.
- Subject indexing follows natural language as well as professional terminology in every scientific field as far as academic libraries in Serbia are concerned.

- UDC (Universal Decimal Classification) is being used in the working process in the academic libraries of Serbia.
- Library users often carry out the retrievals of e-catalogues relying on key words or the names of authors.

Animated photo: *3D library user concentrates on reading*



- The core of subject cataloguing in the framework of [COBISS 3](#) is being carried out in the fields [606](#), [610](#) and [675](#).  
The field [606](#) is being used for:  
the determinant of a topic,  
the subdeterminant of a topic,  
the subdeterminant of time,  
geographic subdeterminant and  
formal subdeterminant.

- The field 610 is being used for **key words**.
- The use of this field needn't be identical in all the libraries of Serbia.
- In the "**Svetozar Marković**" **University Library**, for example, it is being used during the cataloguing of articles published in journals (not in conference books).
- For the cataloguing of articles published in monographies such as conference books, the field 606 is being filled in.

- The field **675** in **COBISS 3** is being used for the classification of library materials.
- **UDC number** should be determined.
- *UDC number for retrieval* should be also determined. It is a very simplified form of the previous UDC number.

- Authors name and surname is being typed in its original form as far as the central university library in Belgrade is concerned.
- Field 700 should be filled in by the original form of authors name and surname. Field 900 should be also filled in if a librarian knows how to pronounce the name and surname. Its phonetic form is being typed out in the field 900 in COBISS 3.



- The [name](#) and [surname](#) of [co-authors](#) are being typed out in the fields [701](#).
- Their phonetic form should be typed out in the fields [901](#). In other words, the field [701](#) and [901](#) can be multiplied.
- The field [701](#) and [901](#) are to be [connected](#) through the [subfield 6](#).
- For the data on authors (year of birth and/or death) the following web address is usefull:  
[www.viaf.org](http://www.viaf.org)

Table 1. Bibliographic descriptions in the domain of standardization and automation of libraries (all languages, all materials) in The "Svetozar Markovic" University Library in Belgrade

Resource for retrieval: e-catalogue of The "Svetozar Markovic" University Library in Belgrade

Term (in Serbian)	Number of bibliographic descriptions
Catalogue	3.431
Subject and cataloguing	23
Classification and libraries	143
Standardization and libraries	38
Libraries and automation	75
Digital libraries	184

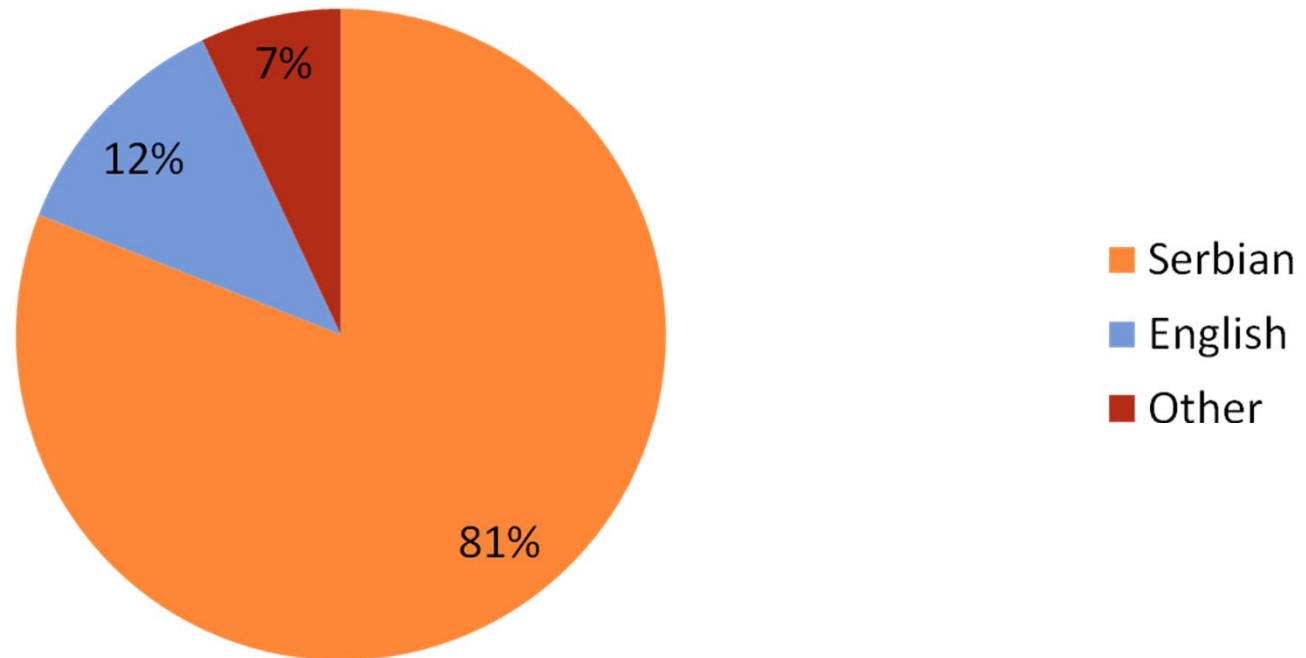
Table 2. Bibliographic descriptions in the domain of standardization and automation of libraries (all languages, all materials) in Serbian academic librarianship

Resource for retrieval: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR (Access: 22.09.2016.)

Term (in Serbian)	Number of bibliographic descriptions
Catalogue	69.839
Subject and cataloguing	95
Classification and libraries	423
Standardization and libraries	160
Libraries and automation	372
Digital libraries	1.731

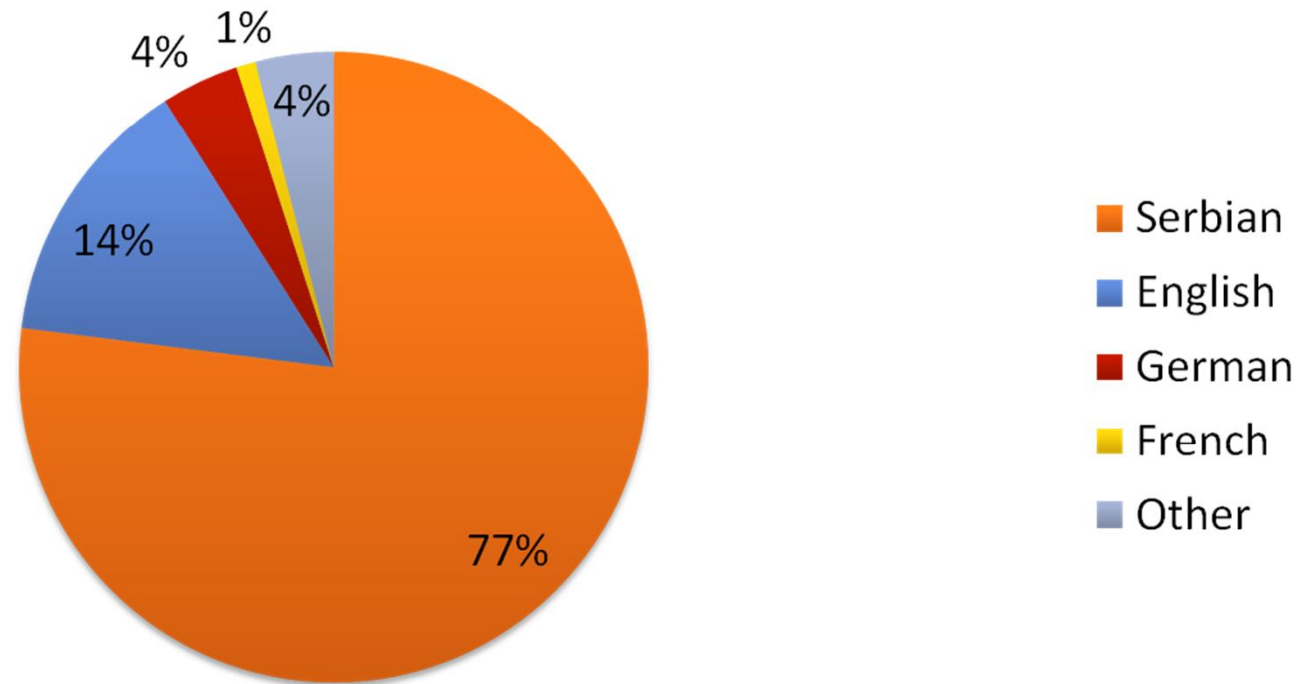
# Chart 1. Literature on standardization in the context of librarianship: linguistic structure of the collections in Serbian academic librarianship

Resource for retrieval: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR  
(Access: 22.09.2016.)



## Chart 2. Bibliographic descriptions on the digitization of libraries in the collections of Serbian academic librarianship: linguistic structure

Resource for retrieval: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR  
(Access: 22.09.2016.)



- In this epoch when digital TV penetrated households in [Serbia](#), when wireless Internet is being used often and mobile phones are regularly present in daily communication, [Serbian libraries](#) are being gradually transformed into the [digital libraries](#).
- It goes on due to the improvement of their [technical base](#) of [work](#) and the [permanent education](#) of their [staff](#) and library users.
- [Libraries](#) in [Serbia](#) contribute a great deal to the development of [digital science](#) and [digital culture](#) on their way towards the [City 3.0](#).

- The rector of The University of Belgrade, prof. dr Branko Kovačević signed [Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities](#), on 11 November 2011. It is in this way that the [Universty of Belgrade](#) entered [Berlin process](#).
- It is due to the [open access](#) that professional papers, research papers, doctoral dissertations, as well as other necessary contents may achieve higher level of visibility and become [more cited](#) in professional journals worldwide.

- “Our mission of disseminating knowledge is only half complete if the information is not made widely and readily available to society. New possibilities of knowledge dissemination not only through the classical form but also and increasingly through the open access paradigm via the Internet have to be supported. We define open access as a comprehensive source of human knowledge and cultural heritage that has been approved by the scientific community”.

*(Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, p. 1.)*



# European e-theses

- The sense of the European Project [DART](#) is explained and visible on the [e-theses portal](#).
- These theses are in a [free access](#) and they are available in [full text](#).
- Usefull web address is:  
[www.dart-europe.eu](http://www.dart-europe.eu)

- There is a system [E-thesis](#) of [The University of Belgrade](#). That system is the segment of an open repository [PHAIDRA](#) which is being used for “permanent hosting, archiving and indexing of digital resources and assets” which refers to [doctoral dissertations](#) by those candidates who finished their doctoral studies at a university in [Serbia](#).

- **Subject indexing** is to be done when metadata are being attributed for every **doctoral dissertation** which should be downloaded in full text into the open repository **PHAIDRA**.  
(**P**ermanent **H**osting, **A**rchiving and **I**ndexing of **D**igital **R**esources and **A**ssets)

Subject indexing is previously finished in **COBISS 3** as well as classification. An adequate **subject indexing** follows professional terminology, not just mother tongue. It is indispensable for an efficient retrieval of an e-catalogue and the open repository having in mind the field **856u** which connects **COBISS 3** with **PHAIDRA**.

It should not be forgotten

- *“A healthy society furthers man`s capacity to love his fellow men, to work creatively, to develop his reason and objectivity, to have a sense of self which is based on the experience of his own productive powers.”*

*Erich Fromm*

## Conclusion

- Technical base of work in the academic libraries of Serbia improves the implementation of **national standards** in the cataloguing of library materials. These **national standards** are created in accordance with **international standards**.
- The academic libraries of Serbia use mostly **COBISS 3** for the **cataloguing** and **classification** of **library materials**.
- The number of **key words** is being optimized.
- **UDC** is being used for the **classification** of **library materials**.
- **Key words** as well as **UDC number** are visible among **metadata** for each **doctoral dissertation** downloaded into the **open repository PHAIDRA**.

- Resources:

- 1) Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, 2011.
- 2) <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>
- 3) Erich Fromm, *The Sane Society*, London, Routledge & Kegan Paul LTD, 1963, p. 72.
- 4) ISO/TR 28118:2009 (Technical report): Information and documentation – Performance indicators for national libraries (Geneva: ISO, 2009), p. 12.
- 5) Милан Вујаклија, *Лексикон страних речи и израза*, Београд, Просвета, 1980.
- 6) [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

Thanks for your attention!

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