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# Summer school

## “Library as a community cultural space”

20 – 30 August, 2023  
Rīga and Cēsis, Latvia

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# Digital Culture Heritage Platform and Digital Library of Latvia

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# Law on the National Library of Latvia

Since September 2020 new function of the National Library of Latvia

**(1) Acting in coordination with other libraries, the National Library of Latvia shall:**

**implement processes for the digitization of cultural heritage, develop the digital resources of national cultural heritage, including create the Digital Library of the cultural heritage of Latvia and ensure long-term preservation thereof.**

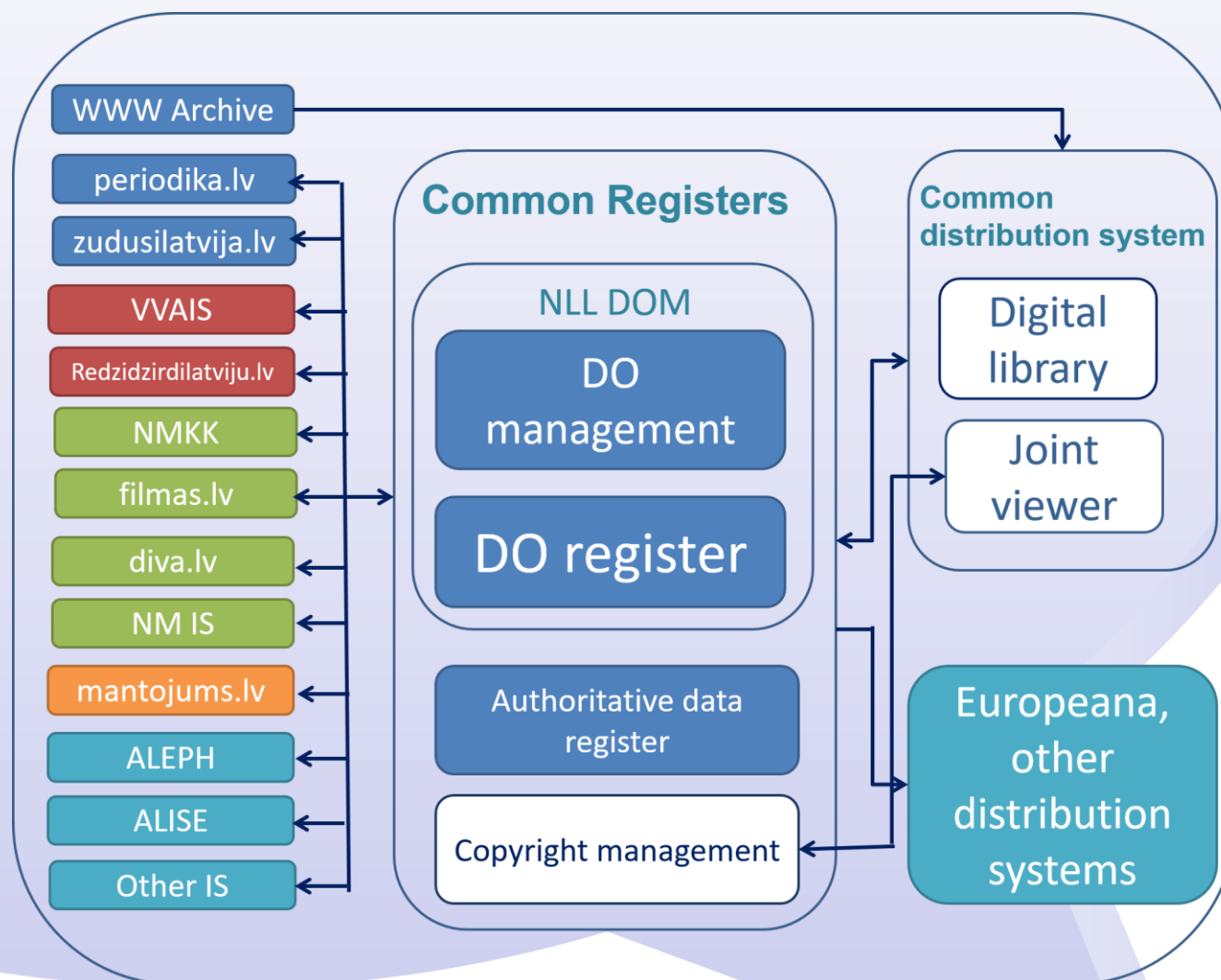
# Path

- In late 1990<sup>th</sup> first scanning equipment and small-scale in-house digitization
- Since 2006 on the agenda of cultural institutions, when the long-term state program *Digital Library Letonica* was launched
- In 2007-2013, digitalization activities and the development of digital cultural heritage systems within the framework of individual institutions, not coordinated with each other
- 2014-2022 joint work on the creation of the Digital culture heritage platform:
  - In 2015 the Digital Cultural Heritage Development Strategy was approved as part of the Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2014-2020
  - Digitization of Cultural Heritage Content Stage I
  - Digitization of Cultural Heritage Content Stage II

**2023 – show must go on!**

# Digital Cultural Heritage Integrated Platform

- Unified registers
  - NLL DOM as unified DO register
  - Authoritative/reference data register
  - Copyright management system
- Culture information systems integrated with the Platform
- Unified digital content dissemination system “Digital Library of Latvia”
  - Single point of access
  - Unified view on DO
  - Unified supply of data to *Europeana* and other partner systems



**Unified cultural heritage  
dissemination service *Digital Library*  
[www.digitalabiblioteka.lv](http://www.digitalabiblioteka.lv)**

**We are aiming:**

- **to combine the digital resources of different Latvian cultural heritage holders**
- **to become a reliable source of information and a central access point to all digital cultural heritage resources in Latvia**
- **to ensure the widest possible access to cultural heritage in the digital environment**
- **to create a solution fitting for different user groups, improving access and facilitating the use of digital resources**

# **..in autumn of 2023**

*Digital Library* will provide a unified access to:

- **Already existing digital content (150 institutions, 390 private holders)**

**PLUS**

- **Digital content of all museums, the National Archive and the National Heritage Board**
- **Union catalogue of the libraries of national importance Aleph ([kopkatalogs.lv](http://kopkatalogs.lv))**
- **National catalogue of museums ([nmkk.lv](http://nmkk.lv)),**
- **National unified archival system ([arhivi.gov.lv](http://arhivi.gov.lv))**
- **Management system of culture monuments ([mantojums.lv](http://mantojums.lv))**

# Each participant of the Digital Library agrees to these few principles:

- **The user is at the center**

The wishes and needs of the user come first, so we strive to break down institutional boundaries in the digital space, combine collections and offer the user unlimited access to Latvian cultural and scientific heritage.

- **Content is a shared value**

We are responsible for ensuring that the content of our cultural and scientific heritage is secure, appropriately accessible in the digital space, so that it can be managed, enriched and used effectively.

- **The principle of digital space**

We use the opportunities offered by digital space and technology to make the content of our cultural and scientific heritage more visible, usable and sustainable.

- **Everyone contributes**

We all understand that the success of the Digital Library is the sum of the participants' contributions, and we share our knowledge, experience and resources as much as possible.



# Digital strategy for libraries

The Latvian libraries strategy 2022 - 2027 sets the goal of promoting the digitization, preservation, and wide availability of the traditional collection, breaking down the boundaries between the institutions' digital collections.

The National Library of Latvia, as the manager of the Digital Culture Heritage Platform and manager of the Competence Center for Digital Cultural Heritage, will encourage and provide competence and support for integration of library's digital collections into the Platform.



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