

National Library of Finland Collections Policy

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National Library of Finland

Collections Policy

Vision

The National Library's internationally unique publication and archive collections form the foundation of a rich research infrastructure. The National Library creates openly available digital resources and open research data from its historical collections and promotes education and open science together with the academic community and general public.

Principles of the Collections Policy

1. The collections of the National Library of Finland form the foundation of a nationally significant research infrastructure in the arts and social sciences.
2. We develop our collections based on the changing needs of research and teaching as well as the principles of open science.
3. The collections of the National Library are at the service of everyone who needs access to academic information and Finland's published cultural heritage.
4. We ensure the preservation of Finnish print and online publications and offer them for research use.
5. We engage in long-term development of our multilingual collections in the humanities.
6. We improve accessibility to our collections by digitising full sets of resources and making contracts to expand users' rights.
7. We support the development of digital humanities by providing our digital collections in a machine-readable format as well as releasing data created from the collections.
8. We increase awareness of our collections among the academic community and the general public.

Principle	Description
<p><i>1. The collections of the National Library of Finland form the foundation of a nationally significant research infrastructure in the arts and social sciences.</i></p>	<p>The collections of the National Library form the foundation of a rich research infrastructure which also comprises the Library's researcher facilities and services.</p> <p>The collections of the National Library primarily serve research in the arts and social sciences. The collections consist of the National Collection, meaning the archive collection of Finnish publications and the National Sound Archive, the Humanities Collection, the Slavonic Library, the special collections and the archive collections.</p>
<p><i>2. We develop our collections based on the changing needs of research and teaching as well as the principles of open science</i></p>	<p>We select material for our collections actively and add to the collections with consideration for long-term developments in research and teaching needs.</p> <p>The National Library has an Advisory Board for the Humanities, Advisory Board for the Slavonic Library and Advisory Board for the Digital Humanities, which support the Library in the development of its collections and services and serve as an interaction forum between the Library and the academic community. The advisory boards give the Library information about the current situation and developments of its focus fields at various universities.</p> <p>In addition to legal deposit copies, we add to the collections through purchases, exchanges, donations and as private archives stored at the Library. The National Library considers the acceptance of donations with cultural and historical significance on a case-by-case basis. Any publications missing from the National Collection will be accepted as donations, as well as Finnish recordings missing from the National Sound Archive.</p> <p>We constantly evaluate our collections and their impact. When removing items from the collections, we consider the material type, the rarity of the item as well as its uniqueness, condition and age. Removals of legal deposit copies are determined by the Act on Collecting and Preserving Cultural Materials.</p> <p>We support new funding models in academic publishing which promote openness in our focus fields, both nationally and internationally. We promote the findability of open resources through the National Library's Finna search service.</p>

<p><i>3. The collections of the National Library are at the service of everyone who needs access to academic information and Finland's published cultural heritage</i></p>	<p>The collections of the National Library are for everyone. The rules of the National Library determine the guidelines for using the collections. Information on the National Library's resources can be found through the Finna search service and the Library's website.</p> <p>With the help of its unique collections and researcher services, the National Library promotes international researcher exchange, particularly in the field of Russian and Eastern European studies.</p>
<p><i>4. We ensure the preservation of Finnish print and online publications and offer them for research use</i></p>	<p>The goal of the Act on Collecting and Preserving Cultural Materials is to preserve national cultural heritage materials published in Finland for future generations and to provide them for the use of researchers and other interested parties. According to the legislation that governs the National Library, Finnish print publications and recordings must be comprehensively archived.</p> <p>We record a representative and varied sample of Finnish online materials according to the Collection Plan for Online Materials drafted in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture. The National Library drafts this plan together with researchers in cultural and social disciplines.</p> <p>We provide the material to our customers in a controlled manner, without endangering the preservation of the materials.</p> <p>We develop the usability of digital heritage materials with consideration for the needs of research.</p>
<p><i>5. We engage in long-term development of our multilingual collections in the humanities</i></p>	<p>The National Library has Finland's only academic library collection of an internationally significant scope in the fields of history, philosophy, art history, literary studies, musicology as well as Russian and Eastern European studies. In addition, the collections have considerable value in terms of the intellectual history of the natural sciences, medicine and law.</p> <p>The collection enables ambitious research into the European cultural heritage in Finland while revealing the international context of Finnish science, culture and history.</p> <p>The multilingual collection is a result of painstaking expert work conducted by the Library over two centuries. Research</p>

	<p>literature is selected based on collection expertise, the monitoring of academic publications and active interaction with the academic community.</p> <p>The collections are primarily added to through methods which allow them to be made openly available. The Library will only acquire a restricted licence for a commercial resource in exceptional situations, for example if it is required by research or the maintenance of central parts of our collection.</p>
<p><i>6. We improve accessibility to our collections by digitising full sets of resources and making contracts to expand users' rights</i></p>	<p>We make our collections available to researchers and the general public through long-term digitisation. We have drafted the digitisation programme for the performance period 2021–2024. The digitisation programme is updated annually.</p> <p>High-quality metadata enables the reuse and long-term storage of digital resources. We generate metadata that complies with international standards. In the digitisation process, we ensure the high technical quality of the scan in addition to comprehensive technical and administrative metadata.</p> <p>We conclude agreements to provide access to our digital cultural heritage resources which are under copyright. The goal is to negotiate with copyright organisations and the rights holders to expand the availability of such resources beyond legal deposit libraries. We provide our online archive and other electronic deposit copies for research use according to the Copyright Act.</p>
<p><i>7. We support the development of digital humanities by providing our digital collections in a machine-readable format as well as releasing data created from the collections</i></p>	<p>We develop our collection services to support the work methods of digital humanities as well as the open sharing of researcher tools.</p> <p>Data is a part of the National Library's resources. The National Library's data catalogue enables researchers to use the data resources of the Library. The Louhos (Mining Lab) service concept promotes the use of digital materials and data.</p>

<p><i>8. We increase awareness of our collections among the academic community and the general public</i></p>	<p>We promote awareness of the contents of our collections among our key customer groups, which are researchers and students in the humanities and social sciences. We provide tailored tours and advice for student groups.</p> <p>We promote our collections to the general public and help popularise research through online communications, exhibitions and presentations.</p>
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