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Who will Take Over the Libraries of the New Europe?

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Civitas

Outline

The New Europe and its Importance

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Managerial Models: Beliefs, Folklore, Reality
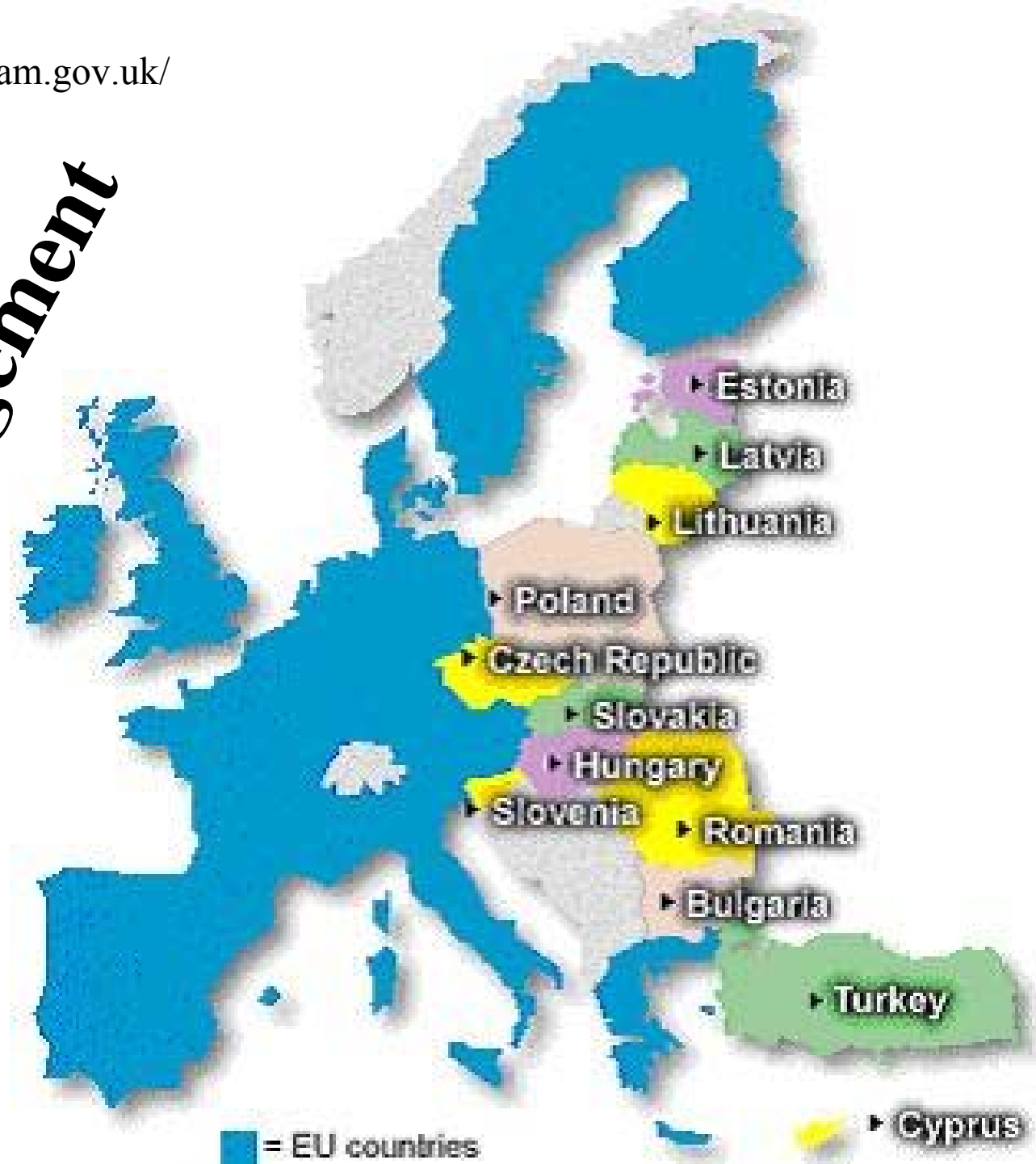
The Leader for the Action

What Can be Started Anew

European Enlargement

The New Europe and its Importance

- „The enlargement..."of what?
- Economies, migration, markets
- Intelligentsia and middle class
- Common goods: town, printing shop, public library
- Indicators of scientific output going down
- Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, and the consequences of common history

Welcome to the Library Scene

- This is where the East of Eden is (Androvič 2002)
- „Przegląd Biblioteczny" paper (2007)
- The cult of books and libraries
- Children as the only reading public? (Poland)
- Information technologies:
  - Late coming, avoiding some errors?
  - „Automation is the answer, but what is the question?" (Borgman 1996)
- Imports and repetition: trends, services, products, complaints
- Similar or different? The case of digital repositories (see next slide)

Institutional Repositories Indexed by Scientific Commons...

Austria [6]	Hungary [4]	CEU Academic Archive CEU Business School Elcetronic Archive Policy Documentation Center Research Support Scheme
Belgium [10]	Lithuania [1]	Lithuanian Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Archive
Czech Republic [2]	Netherlands [25]	Bulletin of Applied Mechanics National Library of Czech Republic - Digitized documents
Denmark [11]	Norway [2]	
Finland [7]	Poland [13], but not...	BIBLIOTEK@ CYFROWA POLITECHNIKI KRAKOWSKIEJ **(68 doctoral diss.)**
France [31]	Portugal [6]	
Germany [76]	Slovenia [1]	ePrints.FRI (Faculty of Computer and Information Science)
Greece [2]]	Spain [45]	
Ireland [3]	Sweden [13]	
Italy [29]	United Kingdom [92]	

Popular Library Cultures

- The town, the gown, and the stereotypes:
    - Librarians: What do you do out there?
    - Honourable Curator and Madame la Bibliothécaire
    - Student wisdom: order, check out, copy, return...
    - Managers, Money, Mother Brussels
- Public libraries: civilisational competence vs literary salon
- Academic libraries: every student her own book
- Professional advancement, years of service and continuing education

After the Rush

- Those brave old days early nineties
- Gone leaders
- Library automation: what it was and how has it gone out of fashion
- The coming of the Digital Age (with its own crew)
- Public library in a wealthy democratic state: plenty of everything

Adequacy of Library Education

- Chorzów discussion, 1994: will libraries retrain their own staff?
- Well-established degree programmes at universities in several NE countries (Juznic & Badovinac 2005)
- On the origins of LIS degree in the 1950s
  - Formal education in the Soviet world
  - Knowing the old libraries as a tool for managing the new ones (cf. the story of Aleksander Birkenmajer and the Warsaw University)
- Frantic curricular adjustments vs tradition
- Scholarly (lack of) communication?

LIS Graduates in the Profession

- In quest for adequate curriculum
  - J & B revisited: a list of courses is NOT A PROGRAMME. What makes a programme?
  - Discipline oriented vs student oriented (problem oriented etc.) programmes
  - Bologna process: what do you mean, colleagues?
- LIS degree not so important for the career?
- News from Poland: LIS postgraduate diploma indispensable for promotion
- Operational, day-to-day work turns librarianship into drudgery
- Knowledge of the practitioner

LIS Graduates in the Profession: Second Thoughts

- Towards anthropology of the library
- Library career: attractive and prestigious?
- No „changing of the guards" after the Fall of communism
- Immigration and transfer of services
- Populism, politics and the lack of standards Prospect for change in an aging society (see next slide)

Crude Birth Rates
for Selected Countries

Country	Birth rate						
	2007	2006	2005	1990	1985	1980	1975
Czech Republic	9.0	9.0	9.1	13.4	14.5	16.4	19.6
Poland	9.9	9.9	9.7	14.3	18.2	19.5	18.9
United Kingdom	10.7	10.7	10.8	13.9	13.3	13.5	12.5

Women's Work

- Generation „1200": a case of oppression or equal pay employer?
- Jobs for Women, Ltd.: obedient, scrupulous, quiet
- Family translated into the library

Managerial Models:
Beliefs, Folklore, Reality

- Manager form outside of the profession: benefit? Danger?
- Library directors: leaders or rear runners?
- „Lack of data, lack of attention" issue (Renaud & Murray, 2003)
- Our director...
  - Is only to control us
  - Looks good on TV
  - Has her own little acre at the Library
- Vacancy: library director? Not much competition!

The Leader for the Action

	☑	Automation and technologies: equipment, applications, code writing
	☑	Non-conventional libraries for young adults
	?	Database management, data conversion, information architecture
	?	Legislation, policymaking, lobbying
	?	Crisis response/social responsibility issues
	?	Rare books/special collections

What Can be Started Anew

- New library legislation, standards, quality assurance

- Energetic lobbying and lawmaking

- Imagine you manage only by projects and task teams

- Promotion for succesful project completion

- Let's globalize the profession

Thank you for your attention!

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