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Polish Research Libraries' Co-operation

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Polish Research Libraries' Co-operation

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EUROPEAN INTEGRATION: CONDITIONS
AND CHALLENGES FOR LIBRARIES

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Co-operation at national level

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In the past

close co-operation between libraries
in similar disciplines → groups of medical,
technical and economics libraries
*(this form of co-operation has existed until
today)*

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Early stages of computerisation

close co-operation between libraries
in various disciplines within
one consortium

common goal → to choose, purchase and
implement integrated library systems

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Advanced stages of computerisation

inter-system consortium for funding
a national union catalogue

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Other enterprises at national level

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- Standardization Group for Polish Research Libraries;
- Databases: SYMPO.net, BazTech;
- Interlibrary loan project: doc@med;
- Conference of University Libraries' Directors;
- etc.

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Co-operation at local level

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Automated regional system -KRAKUS-

only one module has been implemented
- union serials catalogue of Krakow
research libraries
(+ University of Technology in Kielce)

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Local consortia

- Krakow Library Group (1994),
- Poznan Foundation of Scientific Libraries (1996),
- Scientific Libraries' Consortium of the Kujawsko-Pomorski Region (2003),
- etc.

Krakow Library Group

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General tasks

Original task

- Implementation of the same integrated library system in Krakow libraries

Current tasks

- Co-ordination of library activity;
- Co-ordination of acquisitions (journals in particular);
- Supervision over automation of library procedures (mostly coordinating compatibility with the National Union Catalogue NUKAT),
- Upgrading staff qualifications.

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Tasks of the rest of local consortia are very similar

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Co-operation on international level

One of the most important
examples is co-operation
between NUKAT Centre and
OCLC

Since Poland's accession to the European Union, the number of projects realized jointly by Polish university libraries and libraries in other countries of the European Union is expected to grow

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Forms of co-operation

- agreement
- foundation

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Krakow Library Group

Set up by the Council of Rectors of
Krakow Universities (*11 universities*)
& the head of the Polish Academy of
Science (*Dep. in Krakow*)

[agreement]

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BazTech project, SYMPO.net project

agreement
one library coordinates the project

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Poznan Foundation of Scientific Libraries

foundation

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Conference of University Libraries' Directors

based on its own regulations

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Financing

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First solution

performing all tasks arising from
co-operation within professional duties

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Second solution

Expenses are covered by membership fees paid by the parties to the agreement (consortium).
In this way additional work, performed apart from professional duties, necessary purchases and outsourcing (e.g. hardware & software services, expert's reports etc.) can be financed.

Third solution

Obtaining funds from other institutions
(ministries, foundations, EU) constituting co-funding
(examples: NUKAT, SYMPO.net or BazTech)

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Conclusions

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Thanks to co-operation, especially that undertaken over the last decade, libraries have been able to complete numerous valuable projects, including:

- joint preparation of rules for description of collections in integrated library systems;
- launching a union catalogue;

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Thanks to co-operation, especially that undertaken over the last decade, libraries have been able to complete numerous valuable projects, including:

- efforts aimed at creating collections in electronic form and making them available online (digitalization, digital libraries);
- analysis of libraries aimed at developing standards and library performance indicators.

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Thank you
for your attention

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