



# Report

on the Activities of the OSA Archivum  
between January 2007 and December 2007

**Budapest**  
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## 2007 – THE YEAR OF LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The members of the team based in 32 Arany János utca, Budapest, 1051 spent 2007 determinedly working towards the goals they set to themselves when they moved into their new home: to make the collections and the institutional operations transparent, to meet the challenges of the digital era and to integrate public and archival programs in comprehensive, multifaceted projects, enabling and encouraging professional communities and the larger public to participate, to view and to comment both on and off-site.

Figures of a brief archival stocktaking testify to a job well done. Success is proven not only by the number of distinguished visitors to OSA, the Czech Prime Minister or the Delegation of the Swedish Parliament among them, but also by the impressive number of exhibitions, workshops, film shows and public events, 29 in all, by the 9 international programs where OSA partnered with several institutions and the four major publications hallmarked with the OSA logo. Without exception all these activities were linked to OSA's professional archival routine work of collection development, accession and processing, but they all contributed to achieving OSA's ambitious goal; to be in the forefront of digital archiving. In 2007 digitization took the lead in archival accession and preservation in OSA. By the end of the year the Archivum had approximately 1,000,000 pages of documents scanned, preserved in both TIFF and PDF formats, and indexed. The ever-increasing role of digitization called for the creation of new internal policies governing digital preservation, access to and use of digital content, as well as intellectual property rights relating to born-digital and digitized materials and databases. In 2007 OSA compiled the first draft of its digital preservation policy and started the ground work in other areas, being well aware of the dramatically increasing needs of the digital era in this respect.

A major challenge in 2007 was to build up all these activities with limited human resources, since the staff of OSA decreased considerably. This was a major learning experience not only for the management but for each and every colleague working in the Archivum. Together with the experiences gained in large international grant application projects, the challenge helped OSA go a long way towards restructuring its institutional operational and project management practices along team-work lines.

Grants in the application phase as well as in mid term and in the closing phase were central issues for the staff in 2007. OSA submitted applications in order to secure external funds to support its professional goals, network related activities and public programs, and, in many instances, also to bridge gaps in basic operational costs where the core budget was insufficient. These applications attracted enough funds to realize, among other things, most of the exhibitions planned as well as the annual international documentary film festival, the fourth *Verzio*, and implement the

majority of the activities OSA planned to accomplish within the Soros Nnetwork. Although in 2007 the Culture 2000 project was active only in the first two months, it contributed substantially to OSA's research and publication; institutionally it was a most valuable learning experience and it is hoped that its successful completion will be a major credit for both OSA and CEU in future EU applications.

Another way of securing funds, albeit on a smaller scale, was to take the bold step of advertising the Goldberger building on the free market for rentals. The building proved very attractive and there was no lack of high demand, but it was often difficult to harmonize OSA's exhibition and public events schedule with the seasonally alternating demands of the market. Getting along in the for-profit world requires special skills, contacts and compromises, which need still to be acquired, practiced and then made part of the routine operations of the Archivum.

In 2008 OSA hopes to fully exploit what it learnt in 2007 in all fields of its activity and to make further progress in defining and demonstrating the new role of archives in an extraordinarily fast- developing digital world.

## **1. 1051 Budapest, Arany János u. 32.**

Life in the transparent, glass roofed, glass walled, generously spaced building, itself a symbol of OSA's long planned goal to make both its collections and its operations transparent, bustled with life in 2007. As the months went by, the building got busier and busier. True, there were longer periods, when the exhibition area loomed empty, but the OSA Archivum managed to rent the building out on several occasions, on a commercial basis but at times to support worthwhile missions, like that of the exhibition of programs developed by teenage programmers for a competition organized by C3 (Center for Culture & Communication Foundation).

Fulfilling, or even surpassing the original hopes and expectations, the friendly Goldberger Bistro with its high quality food, and swift, attentive service attracted many guests, several of whom became regular patrons of the Bistro as well as of OSA's exhibitions. The public programs which accompanied the exhibitions or featured as stand-alone events tested the building heavily this year, too. One example was the Dilemma Caf, a discussion program built around the Wallenberg exhibition, also in the literal sense of the word, since it took place in close physical proximity to the exhibition: teenagers in groups of twenty poured into one of the side wings of the Gallery, furnished to resemble a café, throughout the entire six -week long duration of the exhibition. The building withstood similar 'invasions' several times during the year; for example teenage groups of 40 students or more came to see the Verzio documentary films, college and university students crowded the building at the start of the academic year to enjoy a short introduction to archival

science and a tour of the building, while a very varied crowd came daily to browse through and take their pick of the 20,000 volumes of discarded RFE/RL duplicates offered to the public.

This 'book project' emptied OSA's external storage room at 14, Október 6 Street, but new arrivals soon filled it up, and the Archivum is again in need of more storage capacity for further textual donations and deposits. This, together with the Galeria's need for more storage space, which was not resolved in 2007, is one of the major problems OSA has to settle with CEU.

The visual and technical upgrades of 2007 followed in the footsteps of the previous year and symbolically further reduced the already narrow dividing line between the inside and the outside. This year's new arrivals were 28 bookshelves – made of paper, a variation on the theme of the use, the importance and the destiny of paper, symbolized by OSA's reception desk designed and created in 2006 by OSA's own creative artist and skilled technician. In 2007 OSA was honored by a donation from artist Sam Havadtoy, who presented OSA with his *Plate 27*.

Technically, the air conditioning in the Archivum's second floor Meeting Room was finally fixed and made fully functional, so it can now accommodate workshops, public lectures and seminars for up to 30 people under easy and comfortable conditions. However, the fine-tuning of the air conditioning/heating system, which has to answer the often contrasting needs of the Archivum and the Bistro, is still a problem which needs an urgent solution. Throughout 2007, just as in 2006, the facilities manager faced daily dilemmas deciding where to focus heating, cooling or ventilation according to the needs of the events of the day. Shading the glass roof for air conditioning purposes as well as for day-time film screenings, has turned out to be essential, while the ever-growing number of visitors make the installation of a state of the art security system imperative. OSA has strong hopes that efficient management and close cooperation with CEU will enable it to raise the funds necessary for these improvements.

## **2. Budget**

In 2007 OSA received a smaller core budget from CEU than in 2006. This covered OSA's personnel expenses but left OSA with operational costs less than the minimum funding needed even for very prudent daily operations. So in 2007 not only were travel, technical upgrades and office supply expenses minimized, but the survival strategy required further personnel reductions and a heavier reliance on external financial resources.

In 2007 OSA's major external source of support from OSI NY, which for many years had been allocated to OSA to cover its Network related activities, was discontinued. Instead, funding was awarded as a grant against appropriate application and on condition of regular reporting, obligatory for grants. Joint projects with OSI Budapest (such as the Chachipe photo exhibition in Budapest or the *No Roma!* exhibition in Venice) were funded under separate grants.

The European Union Culture 2000 program grant, which OSA received in 2003, covered OSA project-related activities for three years; and which was supplemented by a Hungarian National Fund grant, thus helping maintain OSA's professional activities as long as it was active, up to February 28, 2008. The financial balance was drawn up, and both the final financial report and the activity report were accepted by both granting institutions by December, 2007.

In 2007, in the same way as in 2006, almost all of OSA's exhibitions were co-funded to different extents, with the exception of Sándor Pinczehelyi's *Reprints and Objects 1973 – 2007*, while the *Composites-on-tour – International Composites Design Competition* was not only fully funded by the Hungarian Patent Office and an EU grant, but brought in considerable profit in cash for OSA/CEU. OSA's Verzio Human Rights Documentary Film Festival, organized in cooperation with the Verzio Film Foundation, was almost financially independent in 2007, with OSA providing minimal support, mostly in-kind in the fields of administration and publications.

By 2007 OSA had come to realize fully that its future operations depend largely, if not entirely, on the amount of the external funding that can be raised. However disheartening this realization might have sounded, the experiences gained in the field of fundraising, on the positive as well as on the negative side, were very beneficial to OSA's institutional culture and operational routines and made the institution more flexible and even more open to adapting to changes.

In 2007 OSA's personnel costs and one third of its operational costs were covered by CEU, the remaining two thirds were covered by grants from OSI NY, by the remainder of the EU Culture 2000 grant, by the support of collaborating institutions on the exhibitions and other public programs, and a fraction of its non-personnel expenses was covered by income from rental fees. If OSA wants to continue with its public programs and maintain its leading position in the archival field it clearly has no choice but to apply continually for external funds and tailor its activities to its financial means.

### 3. Staff

Since personnel costs accounted for close to 90 per cent of OSA's 2007 budget, the Archivum was compelled to continue personnel cuts at all levels. In March 2007 OSA had to discontinue the employment of its Senior Supervisory Archivist, Pavol Salamon, who had been with OSA for ten years. The position was closed and Mr. Salamon's duties were distributed among members of the OSA staff. In May OSA Receptionist, János Ponczók left OSA to take up a new position at the Hungarian IBM Headquarters. His position was temporarily filled in by Iván Sörös, OSA's Administrative Assistant, who, after a two month internship with the EU offices in Brussels left OSA in September to take up a new position at the Ministry of Education. His position remained vacant, while OSA's exhibition attendant position, held by László Szilágyi, was closed in November. In September 2007 OSA contracted a new receptionist, Sándor Pelsőczy, who had already worked for OSA, helping out during Iván Sörös's EU internship.

Other changes in the staff were of a less professional character: both OSA's Audio-visual Research Archivist and OSA's Junior Librarian went on maternity leave, while OSA's Public Events Coordinator returned from her maternity leave. In 2007 the position of the Audio-visual Research Archivist and that of OSA's Junior Librarian remained vacant and their duties were temporarily taken over by colleagues in order to further reduce OSA's expenses.

Tasks that the staff of OSA could not pick up, and could not be handled by the technological development that was intended to bridge the shortage of labor, were covered by interns (Nica Horwitz, Ariel Stess and Zoltán Glück from Bard College, and Jan Gerlach from Switzerland) and students of CEU and other educational institutions on fixed-term employment contracts. In addition to OSA's long term CEU student helpers, Ms Garaz and Ms Deak, OSA employed three BA students to help out with its ambitious 'book project'.

By the end of 2007 OSA had 20 full-time and 4 part-time employees and 3 colleagues working under externally funded fixed-term contracts. In 2007 the staff of OSA comes from a total of 8 countries.



## HISTORICAL AND CURRENT HOLDINGS

2007 saw no change in OSA's philosophy: on its dual role is still to preserve historical holdings and provide service for the University, NGOs and the research community at large. OSA sees digital records not only as the subject of continuing appraisal, but also as an integral part of the processing and preservation strategy. However, more obviously than ever before, the shift in OSA's perception of the archives, favored digital records. 2007 added two major digital collections to OSA's holdings, the Hungarian State Security Documents and the Claire de Hedervary collection, while the year ended with solicitations for several more (the OHR and the ICTY digital archives among them). Professional archival and records management activities were very often part of comprehensive OSA projects, and this placed the holdings and work with the holdings in a new context. One of the best examples is the *Chachipe online photo contest and exhibition* (in cooperation with the Roma Initiatives Office, OSI), by the end of which OSA had gained considerable experience and expertise with online applications, digital content collection and preservation. This shift towards digitization called for new policies and procedures. In 2007 OSA managed to draw up the first draft of its digital preservation policy. Thanks to this OSA could make good progress with most of its other digitization projects and repository-building activities, and gain considerable expertise towards building digital libraries, which it now envisages as its main direction for future development.

### 1. Digital content acquisition

OSA continued acquiring digital content for various reasons:

- **Preservation and access:** Digitizing the Claire de Hedervary Collection (a UN collection covering the work and activities of the UN Special Committee on Hungary after 1956) named after the donor, Claire de Hedervary. The physical records are in the custody of the National Széchényi Library, and no processing was done on the files in the past ten years. Long-term access was jeopardized by the bad quality paper, onion skin, and fading fax messages from the 50s. By the end of 2007 sixty percent of the Collection had been scanned by OSA, and ten percent had been indexed and described. OSA also enriched the content by adding substantial descriptive metadata on the context of the files. The new collection serves as an accrual to the 1956 thematic collection: <http://www.osa.ceu.hu/digitalarchive/>.
- **Preservation and distributed archiving:** the repository of the Soros Network Archival Portal, <http://snap.archivum.ws/dspace/> , continued to be one of the most important tools for the Soros Network entities to preserve

their records in a standardized and professional manner. At present the repository contains approximately 5,000 files in total, which amounts to about 20,000 pages of scanned documents. In 2007 a second instance of the online database was set up to collect all Hungarian language content from the Hungarian Foundation relevant for Roma minority programs and to establish a thematic Roma collection with 1,300 documents. This is the so called "Soros Roma Knowledge Base" at the Kspace instance (<http://kspace.archivum.ws/kspace/>)

- **Access:** in 2006 OSA digitized the entire photographic heritage of the Hungarian Soros Foundation, comprising more than 4,000 photos, for preservation reasons. In 2007 the goal was to provide access to some parts of the collection and to create an online digital collection on the [www.soros.hu](http://www.soros.hu) .
- **Access and preservation:** by creating an online test version of the Foreign Correspondents Archive, OSA wanted to raise awareness of dispersed private collections concerning Hungary from the point of view of foreign correspondents living in this region. Andrew Princz offered its own papers to be digitized and used as sample collection of 500 items.

## 2. Acquisition – library and archival holdings

- OSA continued its efforts to collect the personal papers of well known public figures from the communist era and from the transition period, along with its duty to preserve the personal collections of the faculty of the Central European University. In 2007 the personal papers of Géza Sáska, the samizdat collection of György Krassó, and the personal papers of Tóth István György, former faculty member of CEU, were added to the OSA holdings.
- Major changes to the human rights collection, more specifically to the Fonds 318 of the International Helsinki Federation, were made towards the end of 2007 due to the closing down of the Federation. The transfers are still ongoing and no final inventory of the newly accessioned materials is available, owing to the sensitive nature of the transaction.
- OSA Film Library continued its growth, by adding almost 1,000 more documentary films to the existing collection of both fiction and documentary products: <http://www.archivum.ws/guide/filmlibrary/>

### 3. Processing, cataloging and content enrichment

- **OSA Inventory.** One of the major initiatives of the last year was to assess the physical holdings of OSA, including their locations and the status of the finding aids. As a result of this exercise, the professional staff was able to draw up a processing priority list for 2007 and 2008. The inventory pointed out search and retrieval problems related to the online finding aids and raised the issue of upgrading the database and developing a more sophisticated online strategy to enhance multilingual collections. At the same time, an OSA grantee, Kathryn Mathe, conducted a survey among scholars using OSA online findings aids to define future needs and existing problems related to the virtual presence of OSA holdings. Not surprisingly, both reports defined very similar discrepancies, especially limitations on displaying information at the item level of description.
- **Indexing digital Background Reports:** the project started in 2006, but in 2007 the indexing process was targeted on the creation of new entries on the reports about the former Yugoslavia. Last year 3,328 entries were produced by OSA professional staff.
- **Library Cataloging.** OSA's own Library finished cataloguing the BBC Monitoring Reports, the OSI Russian periodicals, the complete "Borbándi" book donation and almost 1,000 entries of the RL Russian collection and English, Hungarian, Russian and Albanian periodicals.
- **"50,000" Books Campaign.** The disposal, selection and donation of this number of volumes required serious work by the OSA staff. Instead of shredding them, OSA decided to give away a vast quantity of books to the scholarly community in Hungary. Approximately 50,000 volumes of RFE/RL library duplicates were selected and displayed in the Gallery in the summer months to be browsed and taken away freely by individuals and institutions alike. 10,000 volumes ended up with the CEU Library, which had the right of first choice, OSA kept 8,000 volumes, 20,000 volumes were picked by members of the public and the remainder, approximately 12,000 volumes, was discarded.
- **Interoperability of the CEU and OSA library catalogue.** OSA's cataloging data was migrated into the CEU Library database to make these bibliographic records available via the University's OPAC system.
- **The Samizdat Text Corpora Project.** After the development and production of the technical documentation in 2006, actual data entry started at different locations both in Toronto and Budapest. The database is intended

to collect information on samizdat periodicals, copies of which are held at various locations in different languages: <http://www.samizdatportal.org/>

- **CEU – General Secretariat: Ann Lonsdale records.** The pre-processing resulted in a detailed inventory list and final structure, making the records ready for physical rearrangement and description.

#### 4. Records management at the Soros Network

- **Developing the policy framework of SNAP.** This project was focused on procedures regarding structure templates for various Soros entities, naming conventions, authority files on program naming and addressing privacy issues.
- **The KARL project and the KM initiative of the Network.** The global intranet of the Soros Foundations Network was in the development phase in 2007 and several OSA staff members were heavily involved in the activities of the different working groups, and participated in training sessions and meetings.
- **The consolidation of the Research Support Scheme files.** The RSS grant records were merged into one series, selected, digitized and put online through SNAP. The project involved the consolidation of 375 archival boxes and 2,730 digital files.
- **Digitization and arrangement of HESP Sub-Board Books and Meeting Minutes.** For internal network-related reference use the digitization covered 5,236 pages in 442 files.
- **NSP Supplementary Grants for Students from the former Yugoslavia.** From the 2287 grant files 289 essays with historically valuable content were selected, sanitized, digitized and made available online through SNAP.
- **Network Women's Program.** Consultations were provided on archival procedures before the program was closed down. These also included the design of an inventory form, the preparation of electronic files to be uploaded into SNAP and the processing of all audio-visual materials (about 315 items: audio tapes, video tapes, floppy disks, CDs, DVDs) transferred to OSA.
- **Updating and developing OSI Budapest RM procedures and forms.** The procedures and forms on the OSI intranet and SNAP were published online.

- **Inventorizing the Uzbek Foundation records** at OSI Budapest records storage. The project involved 140 oversized boxes.
- **Selection of files of the International Foundation Culture Initiative.** The selected documents were used for internal Network reference purposes. The digitization and selection covered involved approximately 1,000 pages.
- **Maintenance of the CEU Records Center.** In 2007 the following activities characterized the work related to this storage facility: maintenance and retrieval of CEU records, updating the storage database, records disposal. The traffic included 78 transfers (411 boxes/binders), 90 retrievals, and the disposal of 120 boxes during the year. 160 boxes/binders were transferred to off-site storage.
- **Maintenance of the OSI Records Center.** In 2007 activities were limited due to the burst of the water pipes. The traffic included 68 transfer transactions (244 boxes/binders), 40 retrievals, and the disposal of 10 boxes.

## REFERENCE SERVICES

In 2007, the Reference Services, which is oriented toward the general and professional public, remained a relatively stable part of the Archives. It continued its efforts to provide high quality services for researchers, students and others. Interest in research in OSA varied across time, very often depending on external factors such as academic discourse or the CEU curriculum or even on seasonal events and anniversaries, but the Research Room was never empty.

Concurrent with the day-to-day activities in the Research Room, the reference services staff are involved in various other activities such as promoting an outreach campaign, archival processing, scanning and other assignments, except when the Research Room is packed and they must focus all their time and energy there. The trend first observed in 2006 continued in 2007: the slight but visible decrease in the number of visits and visitors to OSA's on-site Research Room was balanced by the growing number of on-site documents requests and on-line requests. The number of requests was steadily growing in the previous year, 2007 however saw a dramatic increase of 100 per cent in both categories. The fact that fewer researchers come to the Research Room than before, but spend longer periods there and request twice as many documents, testifies to OSA being recognized as a serious research and working environment.

### 1. Research on-site

The Research Room Procedures, re-designed and adjusted to the needs of the new equipment, new functionality of space and new procedures in 2006, met the initial expectations. It was not only the visitors who voiced their satisfaction about the friendly staff and the user-friendly procedures and equipment; but the sharp drop in xerox-related expenses also speaks for itself. The fixed camera installed in the Research Room was heavily used by those visitors who did not happen to have a camera of their own with them. Using digital images (cca 30,000 in 2007), self service in image taking and scanning saved not only xeroxing expenses but also labor effort and preservation costs.

### 2. Research on-line

OSA's annual output of digitized materials grew steadily and the on-line visits and on-line requests kept pace with this in 2007, just as in the previous year. The estimated number reached about 55 requests per month, almost as many as the on-site documents requests. Requests pouring into the Audio-visual Department of

OSA also increased considerably in number as well as in the volume of material requested, in line with the general shift from text to moving images.

### **3. Electronic services**

OSA's IT Support Unit worked strenuously to make the OSA web site more user-friendly, to improve online access to the OSA holdings and collections by normalizing common data elements, building a federated search interface, connecting various collections and by modifying the online Finding Aids to accommodate choice of language. Hosting nine websites, two of which (<http://www.soros.hu> and <http://www.diafilmmuzeum.hu>) were adopted in 2007, also adds greatly to the popularity of the OSA web pages.

Besides supporting Reference Services and maintaining the OSA hardware and software system, the IT Unit is deeply involved in every OSA project. OSA IT established a NAVA (National Audiovisual Archive of Hungary) point in the Archivum, built and upgraded databases for ISRA, for the Samizdat Text Corpora project, Kspace and SNAP, upgraded each and every PC in OSA, migrated records and servers. In 2007 the OSA IT had its debut with a solo public program: the extension of the Raoul Wallenberg memorial exhibition into the virtual world of Second Life was entrusted entirely to the OSA IT Unit.

### **4. Publicity campaigns for OSA's Reference Services**

In 2007 OSA's Reference Services staff was campaigning to make OSA's holdings and research facilities known in the communities of Hungarian universities, colleges, cultural institutions and among the lay public as actively as it had in 2006. Besides the tour of the Archivum scheduled for every CEU student in the orientation week of their freshman year, the staff of OSA gave presentations on the Archivum in cultural institutions (this year at the Romanian and the Czech Cultural Centers), in universities (in 2007 these were the ELTE and Corvinus Universities in Budapest) and organized tours for several interested groups from different universities and other institutions. By the end of the year the Reference Service had built a network of interested institutions, where recommendations to visit the Archivum were being passed from one to another.

## **IN FOCUS 2007 – THE INSTITUTE OF RECORD (IR)**

In 2007 much of OSA's capacity was taken up by working on the Institute of Record project, not only to prepare it for submission under the EU eContentplus call in October, but also for further development in-house or with supporting institutions.

IR is a networked, multi-lingual, file sharing digital historical archive. It provides free online services for researchers, teachers, informed citizens and the broader public. IR offers a collaborative research space, and integrates access to digital archival content from multiple digital repositories: archives, research institutes, museums and libraries. For individual users registration is required in order to personalize the working environment (create collections and bibliographies, annotate or tag documents, initiate or join discussion topics, etc.) and to authenticate the provenance of the uploaded documents for sharing and preserving. IR's other core feature is a central database of semantically joined metadata from user tagging or annotations (folksonomies) and professional descriptions created by archivists and librarians, thus creating a flexible, user-driven metadata production under professional supervision. IR's goal is to promote fair use of primary historic sources from trusted repositories and to lower barriers to knowledge sharing by providing a simple-to-use environment based on semantic web, interoperability, interconnectivity and other dynamically evolving Web 2.0 standards.

The project will harness the huge informal spontaneous digitization process already taking place in scholarly circles, providing a platform to forge coherent bodies of material not limited by institutional boundaries and linking European archival collections/finding aids to the new generation of scholars.



## **OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

In 2007 OSA was as intent on reaching out to 'the world out there' as it had been in the previous year, starting from its immediate neighborhood at the Central European University through the local and international research community to the widest possible public, all the way to the global virtual world. What was new in 2007 was the increased complexity of the programs and the strong element of digitization in each. There have never been strict borderlines which would separate one program from another. They are interlinked from several aspects to varying degrees, but of course the more comprehensive the program is the closer it lies to the heart of the staff of OSA. The Wallenberg exhibition was a fine example of the project complexity of 2007: its entire life cycle was memorialized in a digital publication; as a program it incorporated archival accession, processing, research, digitizing, local and international cooperation, a public exhibition, film screenings, workshops, roundtable talks, a series of educational programs for secondary school students and went as far as to prepare, with the collaboration and support of the Swedish Institute, a virtual version of the exhibition in the newly opened Swedish Embassy in Second Life, a 3-D virtual world.

### **1. "Archives, Evidence and Human Rights" – course for CEU students**

Already an integral part of CEU curricula, as part of an annual series for MA students of the Human Rights Program at the Legal Studies Department, this course analyzed the legal and ethical problems of using human rights-related documents containing sensitive information, and some of the issues concerning access to documents and data protection. Students were expected to explore the possibilities and limitations of using textual, audiovisual, and electronic archival records as evidence in national or international criminal procedures. Historical case studies illustrated the problems of using and evaluating evidence, the historical, ethical and legal aspects of making justice for past abuses and the difficulties of making state leaders liable for human rights violations.

### **2. Public events at OSA**

In 2007 OSA was the venue for the highest number of public events in its history, ranging from book launches through events relating to the Holocaust to Roma issues and 1956 in Hungary. The public events were organized in cooperation with external institutions, associations or the CEU student body and faculty, and were all followed by lively and informative discussions.

Throughout the duration of the Wallenberg exhibition 93 groups of secondary school students were discussing topics related to the Holocaust in one of the side wings of OSA's Galeria, in the *Dilemma Cafe*.

Film screenings are part of OSA's traditional cooperation with CEU (medieval, history and nationalism studies), but also with ELTE and other educational institutions. By 2007 film screenings formed an organic part of the program of each and every OSA exhibition. However, OSA's Audio-visual Department found free capacity to start a series of screenings on its own. *Propaganda Film in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century* presented 11 rare and classic propaganda films of the genre. Each film was introduced by an expert in the field and followed by discussions.

Films also played a central role in the irregular history class OSA offered for 11th graders within the framework of its Culture 2000 EU project, where students were guided through the history of 'Spartakiads'.

The OSA Audio-visual Department itself prepares and edits films on demand, and also to enhance its own reputation in the field. On the Night of the Museums OSA screened a promotional film about the Archivum itself, prepared by its own staff.

### **3. ISRA and its STC project**

*The International Samizdat [Research] Association (IS[R]A)*, OSA's most important international archival network project, was founded in 2005. Currently IS[R]A's activities fall into four categories: Samizdat Text Corpora [archival program], Community Commons [network program], Shared Knowledge [research program] and Learning Net [educational program]. In addition to holding annual working meetings, IS[R]A currently supports several long-term projects, notably the Samizdat Text Corpora and the RESET "Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization" program.

The *Samizdat Text Corpora (STC)* project aims to bring together the various linguistic and regional bodies of samizdat literature to create a unified constellation of materials for scholarly research. As envisioned, the final product will comprise a union catalogue and digital repository of samizdat held by IS[R]A institutions and by individuals around the world. IS[R]A members will be able to annotate and comment on individual texts and engage in scholarly discussion with fellow researchers. In this endeavor, *STC* supports one of IS[R]A's primary objectives: to overcome the decay of samizdat materials both physically and 'virtually' – in the collective memory of the present and for the cultural memory of future generations.

#### 4. Workshops at OSA

By 2007 workshops and training seminars had also become part of the OSA's routine, when it was about a major outreach event. Workshops formed part of exhibitions as well as of the Verzio Film Festival, but there were also workshops held in OSA within the framework of major international cooperation, or organized around book launches.

This year OSA organized workshops and roundtable talks around two books: *The Age of Fallibility – Consequences of the War on Terror* by George Soros, and the *Bridging the Divide* by Andrew Princz, where the workshop targeted secondary school teachers of history interested in the events of 1956 in Hungary.

The *One Man Can Make a Difference* and the *Raoul Wallenberg* workshops and seminars for teachers were organized around the Wallenberg exhibition and were attended by a record number of participants.

Running parallel with the Verzio 4 Film Festival IS[R]A founder Olga Zaslavskaya and OSA Research Archivist Oksana Sarkisova organized a workshop on *Alternative Images: Documentary as Counter Culture* within the three year program of *Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization* in collaboration with the OSI-HESP Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching. The workshop explored the complex relationship between the 'official' and 'unofficial' in documentary film and addressed new trends and transformations.

In the framework of the EU Culture 2000 *Overcoming Dictatorships – An Encounter of Poets, Writers and Artists* project lead by the Dresden Hannah Arendt Institute, an extended workshop on the literary approaches to experiences connected with dictatorships and their afterlife was hosted in and also organized by OSA. The workshop was extended by an art exhibition on the same topic and concluded by an international conference on the relations between state and churches, with the participation of more than eighty artists, poets, writers and researchers. The readings were open to the public and were visited also by the local expatriate community of the individual artists.

The OSA Records Management team organizes an annual Records Management training workshop for the foundations in the Network. In 2007 it provided hands-on RM practices for the Adminconsult staff at OSI Budapest in the form of a series of 11 workshops and individual training sessions scheduled upon request.

## 5. Exhibitions at OSA

In 2007 OSA organized and hosted six complete exhibitions, one auction traditionally held in the Galeria every year, and welcomed two smaller exhibitions, the *Cold War Chronology* as part of its Culture 2000 project and the *Bridging the Divide* traveling exhibition of the Embassy of Canada. All of these exhibitions without exception were accompanied by a series of events, above all film screenings, but also roundtable discussions, guided tours, musical performances and series of debates targeted at secondary school and university students. On the "Night of the museums" organized by the Hungarian Ministry of National Heritage OSA kept its doors open for a large number of interested visitors who poured in to enjoy the exhibition and have a tour of the archive.

OSA had two pride events in 2007: two of its 2006 exhibitions were invited abroad. The exhibition of the artworks of Endre Rozsda traveled to Rome, where two OSA colleagues were also invited to assist with the preparations and the opening, while the Contagious Middle Ages exhibition traveled to Berkeley, US, where one OSA colleague was invited to accompany it, too.

## 6. Verzio – OSA's largest public event

The 4<sup>th</sup> Verzio Annual International Human Rights Film Festival was organized by Verzio Film Foundation and OSA Archivum in cooperation – for the educational program – with the Goethe Institute under the auspices of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Miklós Jancsó, film director. Verzio 4 took place in Budapest on November 6–11, 2007.

In 2007 Verzio Film Festival received over 450 submissions from all over the world. The main program presented 42 recent documentaries from 26 countries. 34 of the 42 films had never been screened in Hungary before. The Verzio 4 sub-program, the "Festival Crossroads", presented a selection of award-winning documentaries of the One World Film Festival, Prague, the Verzio 4 retrospective focused on the prominent British film-maker, Nick Broomfield, while the central theme of the Student Verzio was tolerance and the prejudices leading to racism, national intolerance and xenophobia.

The total number of visits over the period of 4.5 festival days was approximately 4,200 viewers, out including 700 high-school students who attended the special educational screenings. The growing audience numbers and the repeated success of the festival, not to mention the positive reception in the press show that Verzio IFF is already a well-known cultural event in Budapest. Verzio is also a recognized partner of the international network of human rights film festival's network. The festival gives

the audience a chance not only to view the best documentary films of recent years, but to take an active part in discussions with filmmakers and internationally renowned specialists in film and media studies.

## **OSA – EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

In OSA's over-ten-year-old history, efforts to narrow the gap between the inside and the outside through its professional archival practices and extended public activities have always been complemented by conscious efforts to involve OSA in cooperative projects on both the local and the international level, and to use the more traditional tools of personal connections and publications (textual as well as electronic) to put OSA on the map of the profession. 2007 was not different in this respect but here the increase in output and the widening of the network of connections was more visible than before.

### **1. Local cooperation**

In 2007 OSA's network of cooperation was extended to the Czech, German, Italian, Polish and Romanian Cultural Institutions in Hungary. Cooperation with the embassies of these countries had a long history in OSA, but in 2007 cooperation with the Canadian and Swedish Embassies came into the forefront.

In 2007 OSA was also pleased and proud to work together with the Hungarian Helsinki Committee, the Hungarian Patent Office and the Hungarian Design Council, the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, the Raoul Wallenberg Association, the Holocaust Memorial Center, the Haver Alapítvány and several museums in Hungary.

OSA's Verzio Festival is a product of long-standing and successful cooperation with the Verzio Foundation, the National Film Archive and the Hungarian Helsinki Committee. Without the wide range of sponsors, from the Open Society Institute, Budapest through several embassies and cultural centers to different daily newspapers, magazines and advertising companies, the Festival could not have happened. This year a cooperation agreement lasting several years was reached with the Goethe Institut, Budapest.

### **2. International cooperation**

OSA's Culture 2000 project, where, in the capacity of lead partner, it was cooperating with five partner institutions from four countries closed in February 2007, but its partnership in another EU Culture 2000 project under the title of "Overcoming Dictatorships", lead by the Hannah Arendt Institute in Dresden, was still ongoing, and considerably strengthened OSA's ties with the cultural and political representatives in Hungary of the other partner countries.

Throughout 2007 OSA was working closely with the Higher Education Program at OSI within the framework of the Alternative Culture Beyond Borders project, with the Open Society Institute in New York and the Renaissance Foundation in Ukraine on professional projects, and developed close working relationships with the Swedish Institute and the Jewish Museum in Stockholm.

OSA worked together with the Hungarian Academy in Rome on setting up an exhibition of the works of Endre Rozsda, and with the Venice City Council and the organizers of the Venice Biennale, where OSA prepared an audio-visual installation in the Roma Pavilion.

OSA was proud and pleased to have aroused the interest of several prestigious institutions and politicians, who paid a visit to the institution in 2007; the Board of the New York Philharmonic, the Delegation of the Swedish Parliament, HRH Prince Hassan and Princess Sarwath of Jordan, and the Czech Prime Minister and his Ambassador to Hungary among them.

### **3. Publications, presentations and lectures**

OSA's 2007 publications are as varied as its field of activity: about fifty percent of the publications are catalogues related to its public events, mostly to the exhibitions and the Verzio Film Festival. Other publications are professional in the strict sense of the word: reference information papers based on OSA's holdings and papers dealing with the samizdat collection and the samizdat phenomenon from a broader, international perspective.

2007 saw major individual publications, too. Besides the Russian language essay on the Hungarian Refugees in the CURPH interviews by András Mink and the outstandingly successful calendar prepared from the photos of the Chachipe Photo contest and exhibition, OSA is also proud of the two-volume final product of the EU Culture 2000 History After the Fall project: *Past in the Making* and *Past for the Eyes*, both of which are collections of essays edited by and including works by OSA colleagues. A bilingual multimedia presentation on the history and afterlife of the Raoul Wallenberg exhibition in Budapest, edited by Iván Székely and designed by Péter Agócs, Gábor Zéman and Balázs Zsédely, was published for educational and research purposes on DVD. Following its first English edition in 2005, the Handbook on access to archives, written by Charles Kecskemeti, former secretary general of the International Council on Archives, and Iván Székely, Counsellor of OSA, was published in French by the Council of Europe in 2007.

#### 4. Travel

Due to OSA's rather strained financial situation the staff of OSA mostly traveled on invitation, where the costs were covered by the host institutions or within the framework of a joint project. There were a few exceptions, however, when the presence of a representative of the Archivum was so highly desirable, both for the inviting parties and for OSA management, that, OSA decided to bear the costs even at the price of sacrifices in other fields.

OSA colleagues regularly give presentations or read lectures not only locally but also abroad. The staff of OSA received numerous invitations to participate in conferences and workshops. Most notably, Zsuzsa Zádori, OSA's Senior Audio-visual Archivist was invited to the Venice Biennale, Csaba Szilágyi, OSA's Human Rights Archivist to the SAA meeting in the US, Gabriella Ivacs, OSA's Chief Archivist to the Endangered Languages Conference and to the CyberInfrastructure Conference in the US, Sergey Glushakov OSA's IT Manager to Trieste, András Mink, OSA's Research Archivist and Miklós Tamási, OSA's Creative Artist to the Hungarian Academy in Rome, while Ivan Székely, OSA's Counsellor was hosted by OSI Georgia.



## FUTURE PLANS

OSA is determined to carry on with its activities in much the same way as it did in 2007. Among its goals the further enrichment of its digital collection has first priority. Discussions about the acquisition of the Digital Archive of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the Digital Archive of the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (OHR), and the human rights related documents of the International Helsinki Federation (IHF) had already started by the end of 2007. The increase and leasing of thematic digital content will be complemented by improved search functionality in the catalogue and on the web site.

OSA will be further experimenting with IR, the networked, multi-lingual, file sharing digital historical archive, and hopes to raise external funds to fully develop it. It is planning to extend and further develop further its Parallel Archive project, and also to process photos from the human rights-related fonds and publish excerpts from all the educational and training films of the Hungarian Ministry of Interior Film Studio. Its Audio-visual Department wishes to start a number of new thematic film screenings, for example a series on Pál Schiffer, or the Nazis and Neonazis in documentaries in the public domain – films on the Internet, Hungarian films in the Archivum, in order to revitalize the already outdated official approach to public collections. Following up on one of OSA's most successful programs, the Verzio Film Festival, the establishment of a propaganda film archive is also among the priorities for 2008.

In 2008 OSA is prepared to re-examine its internal institutional operations and culture, in order to find ways to best adapt to the continually changing financial, institutional and professional challenges. OSA is aware that it needs to better harmonize working time, work load and staff capacities, cost effectiveness needs to be increased, cooperation on projects broadened, exchange of professional views and news further encouraged and project work culture strengthened. But OSA's main priority in 2008 will stay as it was the year before: to travel even further along the path towards becoming an interdisciplinary digital archive with a marked human and communal interest, and to play an important part in defining the role of memory institutions in the digital era.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Archives, Evidence and Human Rights Course description**

**Central European University  
Legal Studies Department  
Human Rights Program**

Academic Year 2007-2008  
Fall Semester, Module III (October 30 -December 7)  
14 class hours, 1 credit

Course Leader:  
Iván Székely (social informatist)

Teaching Fellows:  
Sergey Glushakov (IT expert)  
András Mink (historian)  
Csaba Szilágyi (human rights archivist)

OSA offers a one-credit course titled **Archives, Evidence and Human Rights** to the students of the Human Rights Program of the Legal Studies Department. The course includes an introduction to the history and philosophy of preserving recorded memory and gives a short overview of the basic archival functions and types of modern human rights archives. The lectures will analyze the legal and ethical problems of using human rights related documents containing personal data, as well as basic provisions of archival law. A new electronic system of recording and preserving reports on human rights violations will also be demonstrated. Historical case studies will illustrate the problems of using and evaluating evidence, the historical, ethical, and legal aspects of making justice for past abuses and the difficulties of making state leaders liable for human rights violations. The course consists of five in-class lectures and two archival workshops. The classes and workshops are held by the course leader and fellow lecturers from OSA Archivum.

#### **Goals:**

Using OSA as a model, the course aims at bringing the structure, database, catalogs, and documents of such an archive closer to the students and giving specific and practical examples on how to track down and research archival material, as well as evaluate the findings. The students are expected to explore the possibilities and limitations of using textual, audiovisual, and electronic archival documents as evidence in national or international criminal procedures.

**Learning outcomes:**

1. Develop students' ability to use primary sources in their research activities
2. Orientate students in the area of online search possibilities, especially in finding and using trusted online repositories
3. Urge students to reconsider the use of recorded memory in evaluating the moral and legal aspects of justice-making
4. Challenge students to evaluate and critically approach different kinds of archival documents relating to violations of human rights
5. Strengthen students' ability to demonstrate an awareness and understanding of documentary evidence in the context of human rights.

**Assessment:**

Grading is based on class participation (25%) and a short take-home essay on predefined topics (see Appendix) based on consultations and individual research into OSA documents (75%).

**Course materials:**

Reading material is divided into Mandatory and Suggested Reading. Mandatory reading material is connected to the topics of the classes and archival workshops (see class topics). The suggested reading, listed after the class topics, allows students to familiarize themselves with relevant related issues. In addition, online sources are introduced during classes and workshops.

The list of available essay topics is announced during the course (see below).

**Consultations:**

By appointment, requested after class or via email. Students are required to submit an outline of their essays before submitting the final version.

**Class 1**

**Introduction to archives**

(Iván Székely)

This introductory seminar will give a short overview of existing types and functions of archives and archival institutions from the perspective of the researchers, with

special regard to archives and documentation centers specialized in records related to human rights and recent history.

*Mandatory reading*

Theo Thomassen: A First introduction to Archival Science.  
*Archival Science* 1 (2001) pp. 373–385.

**Class 2**

**Human rights archives in transformation**

(Csaba Szilágyi)

In the past decade or so, serious efforts have been made to collect, maintain and make available for research records related to the history of human rights movements and violations worldwide. Besides the already existing ones, new archives and documentation centers came to existence. Challenging new projects to preserve the records of truth commissions and war crimes tribunals, as well as of state agencies responsible for grave human rights abuses were launched. Through its individual members and international organizations, the archival community got more and more involved in these processes. With human rights collections deposited and maintained outside the premises of their creating agencies, access to these records remained a critical issue. The emergence of novel information technologies and knowledge sharing tools dramatically changed the perception of access to information, and called for a reevaluation of the role of these archives and research methods.

This seminar will examine some of the factors and trends that define and shape the activities of national, regional and global human rights repositories. It will look at current practices of making human rights records available and how technological changes will inform efforts to globalize access to them. The case of OSA Archivum and examples from other similar institutions will be used.

*Mandatory reading*

Block, David 2001 (Cornell University): Broadcast and Archive: Human Rights Documentation in the Early Digital Age  
[http://molodiez.org/dms420/hr\\_archives.htm](http://molodiez.org/dms420/hr_archives.htm)

Jarvis, Helen in collaboration with Nereida Cross, 1998  
(New South Wales University):  
Documenting the Cambodian Genocide on Multimedia  
<http://www.yale.edu/cqp/documenting.html>

### **Class 3**

#### **Access and data protection**

(Iván Székely)

In human rights collections a significant part of documents are related to identifiable persons, the victims and perpetrators of human rights violations. These documents were typically created in the recent or immediate past; the persons mentioned in the documents or their families are still living; and the events documented are belong to the most sensitive ones for the people concerned (torture, rape, humiliation, etc.) These documents, however, serve as important resources and evidence for researchers and human rights activists alike. The seminar will give an overview of the philosophical, legal and ethical aspects of these problems as reflected in real-life cases.

Through practical examples, the seminar will also give an overview of the arguments for considering accessibility, and its technical process; the arguments useful in formulating research requests, as well as technologies of partial access to paper-based and audiovisual materials.

#### *Mandatory reading*

Council of Europe: Recommendation No. R (2000) 13 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on a European policy on access to archives (with Explanatory Memorandum).

<http://cm.coe.int/ta/rec/2000/2000r13.htm>

[http://cm.coe.int/ta/rec/2000/ExpRec\(00\)13.htm](http://cm.coe.int/ta/rec/2000/ExpRec(00)13.htm)

### **Class 4**

#### **Legal and political obstacles of justice-making**

(András Mink)

The seminar will give an overview of the typical legal and political obstacles of doing justice after regime changes and/or wars. It will concentrate on the problems of responsibility, accountability, the difficulties of finding and presenting evidence, the dangers of violating the rules of fair treatment and the potential effects of the procedures on the wider public.

#### *Mandatory reading*

Judt, Tony 2005: *Postwar. A history of Europe since 1945.*

Chapter II. Retribution

The Penguin Press, New York

## **Workshop 1**

### **How to conduct research?**

(András Mink, Iván Székely and Csaba Szilágyi)

Concrete examples: textual documents, photographs, moving images (PHR/Rohde: Srebrenica, Witness: Rwanda/CIA rendition, RFE/RL Items: Gulags and forced labor camps)

## **Class 5**

### **Online research – The Martus system**

(Sergey Glushakov)

The recent development of informational technologies (IT) did not change the core functions of archives. Nevertheless, it did change basic archival processing methods. In many cases IT facilitates routine steps and speeds up workload, yet most importantly it improves accuracy and availability of records. Authentic documents become available for public quickly and from multiple sources. This, however, creates certain obstacles for researchers, who strive to base their research on proven documentary evidence. Understanding common archival goals and processes, different approaches to gathering and organizing information, major sources of human rights related records, and the basics of conducting archival research will be explained and demonstrated.

This seminar also deals with Martus, an online tool created for human rights NGO's and activists, who work in endangered environment. It provides its users with two key possibilities: to securely store sensitive information and avoid risk of its physical destruction. The presentation concludes with the demo installation of Martus client software, registration of account, creation and retrieval of a sample document.

#### *Mandatory reading*

Yakel, Elizabeth – Shaw, Seth – Reynolds, Polly: Creating the Next Generation of Archival Finding Aids

D-Lib Magazine, *May/June 2007, Volume 13 Number 5/6, ISSN 1082-9873*

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may07/yakel/05yakel.html>

*Harnad, Stevan and Brody, Tim: Comparing the Impact of Open Access (OA) vs. Non-OA Articles in the Same Journals*

D-Lib Magazine, *June 2004, Volume 10 Number 6, ISSN 1082-9873*

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/june04/harnad/06harnad.html>

## **Workshop 2**

### **A virtual court procedure**

(András Mink, Iván Székely and Csaba Szilágyi)

In a moderated session students are required to play symbolic roles such as Defence, Judge, Witness, Prosecutor, Perpetrator, Archivist, and argue for and against the admissibility of the presented documentary evidence of a case involving grave violations of human rights.

Witness: Masisi Massacre (ASADHO) – Dem. Rep. of Congo/Zaire  
(video recording)

### **Suggested reading**

The Guatemalan Police Archive Project. 2006

[http://www.hrdag.org/about/guatemala-police\\_arch\\_project.shtml](http://www.hrdag.org/about/guatemala-police_arch_project.shtml)

Bickford, Louis, 1999 (International Center for Transitional Justice):

The Archival Imperative: Human Rights and Historical Memory in Latin America's Southern Cone

[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human\\_rights\\_quarterly/toc/hrq21.4.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/toc/hrq21.4.html)

Cook, Susan E 2004 (University of Pretoria):

The Politics of Preservation in Rwanda

<http://research.yale.edu/ycias/database/files/GS27.pdf>

Hutchinson, Elizabeth Quay 1999 (University of New Mexico):

Preserving Historical Memory: Documents and Human Rights Archives in the Southern Cone.

*A Rapporteur's Report*. Santiago de Chile: Ford Foundation.

Kahle, Brewster 2007 (The Internet Archive):

Universal Access to All Knowledge

*The American Archivist*, Spring/Summer 2007

Montgomery, Bruce P. 2001 (University of Colorado at Boulder):

The Iraqi Secret Police Files

<http://journals.sfu.ca/archivar/index.php/archivaria/article/view/12815/14023>

Montgomery, Bruce P. 2001 (University of Colorado at Boulder):

Human Rights: A Survey of Archival Sources in the United States and Canada

[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human\\_rights\\_quarterly/toc/hrq23.2.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/toc/hrq23.2.html)

Williams, Bernard: *Politics and Moral Character*  
In: Hampshire, Stuart (ed.): *Public and Private Morality*  
Cambridge University Press

Singh, Shekhar 2007: *India: Grassroots Initiatives*  
In: Florini, Ann (ed.): *The Right to Know. Transparency for an Open World*  
Columbia University Press, ISBN 978-0-231-14158-1

Genetic proofs of relatedness to help recover the identity of refugees without documents and other proofs of identity. Principles and Recommendations.

In: Pudłowski, Leszek – Székely, Iván (eds.): *Open Society Archives*

OSA, Budapest, 1999, pp. 176–179

<http://www.archivum.ws/files/1999/osabook/07-1.pdf>

## Essay topics

1. Archives, evidence and human rights – Archival documents relating to human rights violations and their suitability for using as evidence in court cases. (Iván Székely)
2. The “archival imperative” of archiving records related to human rights violations – Create an imaginary scenario of depositing the archives of a local HRNGO (or a collection of documents from a human rights activist) from your country to OSA Archivum. (Csaba Szilágyi)
3. Usual suspects – Collecting evidence for a war crime case in the former Yugoslavia from any of the following records: IHRLI (Bassiouni Collection), PHR, IHF, David Rohde. (András Mink)
4. Building the case – Argue for/against using photographs or moving images to corroborate/deny human rights violations based on concrete examples from OSA Archivum's holdings. (Csaba Szilágyi)
5. Medical treatment or political revenge – Psychiatry in the former Soviet Bloc (RFE/RL, Samizdat Collections, Index on Censorship, IHF). You may choose any of the SB countries! (András Mink)
6. Archival research online – A comparative study on trusted repositories, methods and criteria (Sergey Glushakov)
7. Arguments for and against disclosing documents containing personal data in archival holdings (Iván Székely)
8. Tools for NGOs: Martus and its application strategies. (Sergey Glushakov)



9. Following the paper trail – Reflect on the activities of a prominent human rights activist or dissident under communism as revealed by documents in OSA Archivum's holdings. (Csaba Szilágyi)

10. The story of the Third Basket: Helsinki and HR organizations. (RFE, IHF, OSA and CEU Library) Establishment and activities of IHF and/or any national member organization of IHF throughout the 1980s. (András Mink)

## Appendix 2

### IS[R]A

The International Samizdat [Research] Association (IS[R]A) was founded in 2005 as an international network of scholars, archives, museums, research centers and other institutions and individuals concerned with preserving, researching, and teaching the samizdat phenomenon.

The concept took shape in 2004 during discussions between the OSA Archivum (Budapest), Memorial Center (Moscow), and Forschungsstelle Osteuropa (Bremen). The name IS[R]A was taken from the International Samizdat Association, which was founded in 1976 by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty with the aim "to encourage efforts to make the texts of [samizdat] documents most readily available to libraries and individual scholars, as well as to support research projects which make use of samizdat materials for scholarly research purposes". Today, almost 30 years later, our goal is to encourage and support international research in samizdat, dissent and alternative culture by building a network of scholars and professionals; through coordination and collaboration; and with the intelligent use of information technologies and open standards for long-term preservation and broad access. Membership is open to institutions and individuals who are actively engaged in samizdat-related activities and who are willing to collaborate in archival, research, publishing and educational projects.

#### **Founding Members:**

OSA Archivum, Hungary

Memorial Center, Russia

KARTA Center, Poland

Keston Institute Library and Archives, UK

International Institute of Social History, Netherlands

Research Center for East European Studies at the University of Bremen, Germany

Museum-Archives of Ukrainian Samizdat, Ukraine

Czechoslovak Documentation Centre

National Institute for the Memory of the Romanian Exile

Center for Contemporary History Research Potsdam (ZZF), Germany

Robert Haveman Society, Germany

Currently IS[R]A's activities fall into four categories: *Samizdat Text Corpora* [archival program], *Community Commons* [network program], *Shared Knowledge* [research program] and *Learning Net* [educational program]. In addition to holding annual working meetings, IS[R]A currently supports several long-term projects, notably the Samizdat Text Corpora and the RESET "*Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization*" program.

The *Samizdat Text Corpora (STC)* project aims to bring together the various linguistic and regional bodies of samizdat literature to create a unified constellation of materials for scholarly research. As envisioned, the final product will comprise a union catalogue and digital repository of samizdat held by IS[R]A institutions and by individuals around the world. IS[R]A members will be able to annotate and comment on individual texts and engage in scholarly discussion with fellow researchers. In this endeavor, *STC* supports one of IS[R]A's primary objectives: to overcome the decay of samizdat materials both physically and 'virtually' – in the collective memory of the present and for the cultural memory of future generations.

As the material source of primary research, samizdat is in a unique situation. Samizdat was excluded from the long-term preservation policies of the state archival authorities of its day (except of course in those cases when the secret police took special notice of particular documents and their authors). Instead, samizdat documents were secretly spread within the communist bloc and a significant share were smuggled to the West, where they ended up dispersed among numerous organizations and private collections abroad. Not only did this leave much of this often fragile material vulnerable to the effects of time, but the dispersion of these materials across institutional and linguistic boundaries has had a negative effect on the quality of research. Active exchange between scholars has been hindered – one result of which has been a notable absence of comparative research. Recent political developments in several former communist bloc countries have also pointed toward another looming problem, a very real physical threat to this material. All this underscores the need to secure the material through archiving and preservation and to provide unified access through rich online description and digital reproduction.

The project rests on six pillars:

1. The repository will support multiple languages, providing access to all works in English as well as regional languages.
2. Works will be identified and described in a centralized manner; as they emerge, individual copies will be connected to central records.
3. The research and cataloguing of materials will be guided by scholars and specialist archivists, those who can best understand the changing needs of researchers.
4. We will draw from the best of archival and bibliographic descriptive practices, placing emphasis on both the description of individual items – their physical

characteristics and textual content – and of the context in which these items were created and collected. We place particular stress on the inter-connections between works and relation between primary sources and secondary research.

5. We will also record the existence of 'undiscovered' works, those which exist today only in the form of secondary references or in the testimony of former dissidents.
6. STC remains a single piece of a larger effort to build a community of scholarship around samizdat, dissidence, and alternative culture. As a tool, it will not stand alone but will be integrated into a suite of IS[R]A-supported resources intended to capture current research and open up new possibilities.

The Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching "*Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization*" program is a three-year (2007–2010) international research project which explores the continued relevance and significance of the concept of alternative culture in the era of globalization – a moment in which many of the frameworks that have been used to study culture have been questioned and new theories are being developed. This exploration of contemporary alternative culture begins from a comparative, cross-cultural analysis of the phenomenon and idea of 'alternativeness' from the nineteenth century to the present, with a special emphasis on the recent history of Central and Eastern European societies after World War II and their similarities and differences to Western 'Cold War' culture.

Within the framework of the project two international workshops have already been organized: "*Alternative Images: Documentary as Counter-Culture*" (8–9 November, 2007) and "*From Samizdat to Blogging: Globalization and New Forms of Political Expression*" (20–21 February, 2008). Both were organized in close cooperation with CRC at CEU and OSA Archivum, which served as the venue. The project is being headed by Dr. Imre Szeman (McMaster University, Canada), Dr. Mikhail Uvarov (St. Petersburg University, Russia), and Olga Zaslavskaya (OSA Archivum, Hungary). More details can be found at: <http://www.alternativeculture.org>

In 2007 several other events took place that were organized by IS[R]A members and in which IS[R]A played a key role. Here we include a conference organized by the Forschungsstelle Osteuropa (Bremen) entitled "*The Other Europe – from the 1960s to the 1980s. Dissent in Politics and Society, Cultural Alternatives*" as well as the national convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (New Orleans, 2007), where IS[R]A led six panels and one round table, which were quite well attended and were received with interest. More details on our activities can be found at: <http://www.samizdatportal.org>

## Appendix 3

### Travels 2007

- January 19–27: OSI NY Meeting and Building Cyber Infrastructure Conference, Washington DC. Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by OSI.
- January 22–26: Visit to OSF Lithuania for the closing down of the Foundation. Branislav Kovacevic. All costs covered by OSI.
- February 23: Round table discussion at Aleksanteri Institute in Helsinki. Pavol Šalamon. All costs covered by host institution.
- March 7: Moscow, to do research related to Foundation materials. Oksana Sarkisova. Plane tickets covered by OSA.
- March 30 – April 1: Culture 2000-Overcoming Dictatorship workshop, Walbrzych, Poland. Katalin Gádoros. All costs covered by host institution except meals which were covered by OSA.
- April 18–22: András Mink and Miklós Tamási in the Hungarian Academy in Rome to set up and open the Rozsda exhibition. All costs covered by the Hungarian Ministry of Education.
- May 28 – June 2: Joint DELOS-NSDL Conference Settignano, Florence (Italy). Judit Izinger. All costs covered by OSI.
- June 13–17: The Other Europe-from the 1960s to the 1980s. Dissent in Politics and Society Conference in Bremen, Germany. Olga Zaslavskaya. Travel covered by OSA, other expenses (visa, accommodation, meals) by FSO, Bremen.
- July 19–21: Visit to IRF, Kiev, Ukraine to discuss Dspace. Gabriella Ivacs and Branislav Kovacevic. All costs covered by OSI.
- August 13–24: Seminar for Excellence in Teaching "Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization" in St. Petersburg. Olga Zaslavskaya. All costs covered by HESP-ReSET program.
- August 26–29: Ferenc Nemzetes and Miklós Tamási to build the *No Roma!* installation in the Roma Pavilion in Venice, Italy. All costs covered by OSI.
- August 29 – September 4: SAA Annual Meeting, Chicago to present a paper in the panel discussion Activism in the Archives: Working with Human Rights Collections. Csaba Szilágyi. All costs covered by OSI except the enrollment fee, which was covered by the host institution.

- September 12–16: Zsuzsa Zádori to represent OSA at the roundtable discussion and press conference on the *No Roma!* installation and the Roma Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. All costs covered by OSI.
- October 10–17: Endangered Languages workshop, New Hampshire and OSI New York meeting, NY. Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by OSA except hotel in New Hampshire which was covered by the host institution.
- October 23-26: 17th International Archival Day organized by the International Institute of Archival Science of Trieste and Maribor, Trieste, Italy. Sergey Glushakov. All costs covered by OSI.
- November 1–10: Contagious Middle Ages in Berkeley, USA. Katalin Dobó to help to set up the exhibition. All costs covered by the host institution.
- November 14: Chachipe exhibition to Venice, Venice Italy. Gabriella Ivacs. All costs covered by OSI except hotel, which was covered by OSA.
- November 19–23: Visit to OSF Lithuania to collect materials. Branislav Kovacevic. All costs covered by OSI.
- November 15–18: 39<sup>th</sup> National Convention AAASS, New Orleans. Olga Zaslavskaya. All costs covered by OSI.
- December 7–9: Culture 2000 Overcoming Dictatorship workshop, Bucharest. Katalin Gádoros. All costs covered by host institution except meals, which were covered by OSA.
- December 12–16: "Introduction of e-Transparency in Georgia" workshop in Tbilisi. Three presentations by Iván Székely on the electronic freedom of information. All costs covered by host institution.

## Appendix 4

### Verzio 4

#### About Verzio

The 4<sup>th</sup> Verzio Annual International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival was organized by Verzio Film Foundation and OSA Archivum in cooperation – for the educational program – with the Goethe Institut under the auspices of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Miklós Jancsó film director. *Verzio 4* took place in Budapest, Hungary on November 6–11, 2007.

Verzio International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival is committed to bringing to the broad public quality creative documentaries with civic commitment. It seeks to portray human condition, and to promote the ideals of open society, democracy, rule-of-law, tolerance, political and cultural pluralism. Verzio also aims at exposing the cases of human rights violations throughout the world. Verzio works towards creating an environment where human rights are respected and in which ideas are examined creatively and critically. It aims at promoting the use of documentaries in teaching and involving broad audiences in debates on challenges facing humanity.

The selected films addressed a wide range of issues affecting international affairs today: terrorism; political repression; searching for personal and historical truth; free media; minorities; nationalism and racism; women's rights; child abuse; religious fanaticism and war crimes.

The main Festival venues were Toldi Cinema and Cirko-Gejzír Film Theatre. OSA Archivum and Goethe Institut were the venues of the educational sub-program, called Student Verzio. OSA Archivum was also the venue of a human rights photo exhibition and a workshop.

#### Film program of Verzio 4 festival

In 2007 Verzio Film Festival received over 450 submissions from all around the world. The main program of Verzio 4 presented 42 recent documentaries from 26 countries. The festival offered visitors an outstanding selection of award-winning and less well-known contemporary documentaries from Europe, Asia and overseas. 34 of the 42 films have never been screened in Hungary before. The Verzio 4 sub-program "*Festival Crossroads*" presented a selection of award-winning documentaries of the One World Film Festival, Prague, Czech Republic.

This year the festival program featured *religion in the spotlight*, exploring a wide range of denominations and countries – from Denmark to Congo, from the US to Iran – which demonstrated a variety of roles spiritual practices play in today's world. Social institutions, charismatic leaders, and stories of rank-and-file believers in Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, or cargo cult inspired reflexive and often controversial works distinct in style and approach but united in the intention to map complex and multi-dimensional issues. Among new thematic categories we launched "*Lessons of Democracy*" seeking to introduce its local variants and initiate a debate on the inbuilt controversies of the political system – from recent elections in Iraq to the workings of the International Criminal Tribunal in the Hague. Working conditions and transformations in the labor markets constituted the "*Working Class*" block which introduces us to the lives of Palestinian illegal workers in Israel, German laid-offs, Mexican and Chinese construction workers and Hungarian unemployed. Transformations experienced by families – collapse of patriarchal family structure in rural China; life-stories of scattered across the world Iranian clan emerge as witnesses and by-products of political and economic globalization – were portrayed in "*Family Matters*". The 2007 program further explored the issues of *gender and youth*, offering portraits of hijras in India, Congo children accused of witchcraft, and British neo-Nazis, among others. Screenings were accompanied by debates with festival guests – filmmakers, media experts, journalists.

This year's festival program included a retrospective on the prominent British filmmaker Nick Broomfield, whose name became a trade-mark in documentary filmmaking. A characteristic investigative style, with the figure of the director prominently featuring among the protagonists, both provoking and reflecting on the events, came to replace in his works a traditional observational mode, breaking up the mimetic illusion from within. The selected films demonstrate the variety of styles and modalities of documenting the world: from the cinéma vérité-style of *Juvenile Liason* and *Tattooed Tears* to the famous 'frog-view' panorama of South African Apartheid system (*The Leader, His Driver and the Driver's Wife*) and a disturbing portrait of intertwining of the penal system with entertainment industry (*Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*). His latest documentary *His Big White Self* (2006) exemplifies another characteristic Broomfield's practice of revisiting his protagonists years later to follow-up on the issues raised in his previous films.

Following Árpád Göncz, former president of Hungary (Verzio 1 – 2004) and Gyula Gazdag, film director, professor of UCLA (Verzio 2 – 2005), and Mr. Miklós Jancsó film director (Verzio 3 – 2006), Verzio 4 was opened by Mr. Ferenc Kőszeg, the founding president of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee.

The festival was accompanied by a photo exhibition of selected works from the international *Chachipe photo contest*, the "*Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization*" workshop and the



roundtable on "*The Politics of Documentary Today*", all of them hosted by OSA Archivum.

Verzio is a non-competitive festival. But, there is an award: film festival visitors assign it, based on their evaluations. A voting slip was attached to each entrance ticket. Visitors were requested to evaluate the films on a scale of 1 to 10 by tearing the slip. 1 = very bad, 10 = excellent. The film which got the highest average was awarded with the 1.000 USD Verzio 4 Audience Award. The average rate of the Verzio 4 films was 7.49 and the winning film received a grade 9.78. (Verzio 4 awards: see below.)

### **Educational programs at Verzio 4 – Student Verzio**

Verzio organized morning screenings and follow-up debates for high school groups from 7 to 9 November 2007 in two venues: at OSA Archivum and at the Goethe Institut. By encouraging communication, the educational project, called Student Verzio worked to address tolerance, and to challenge prejudices leading to racism, national intolerance and xenophobia. By organizing follow-up discussions Verzio sought to empower teachers to help students form independent opinions and enrich individual social, cultural and historic awareness. The films screened to the students at the Archives this year addressed the issues of ethnic tension between Arabs and Jews in Israel, as well as radical right wing in Hungary through the portrait of a 'national rock' band. The two German films screened at the Goethe Institut addressed the issues of school mobbing and what it means to live in the shadows of handicapped brothers and sisters. Film screenings and discussions for students in German language were organized at Goethe Institut, too. Full program of Student Verzio is available at:

<http://www.verzio.ceu.hu/student/index.html>

The special screenings, organised for high school students were accompanied by discussions with András Mink (historian OSA, editor of *Beszélő*), György Broszman (history teacher, Pásztó), Ágnes Kósa (psychologist), Diána Póczé (psychologist), Katalin Hegyes (editor, script writer, Goethe Institute) and Tamás Teszler (film scholar).

### **Verzio Awards**

Audience Award – 1.000 USD – went to Bridge Over The Wadi, directed by Barak Heymann and Tomer Heymann (*Israel , 2006 , 57'*). The film follows the operation of a joint Jewish-Arab school meant to initiate communication and peaceful cooperation among the members of a mixed yet separated community. Due to the

very tight voting results Verzio Film Foundation decided to award Diana Groó's film What Lies Ahead a symbolic 300 euro special prize. The film portrays the everyday lives of disabled children living in the Petó Institute, Budapest. "I am honored, and moved. Please note, that this prize goes to all the children who made this film happen", said the director at the award ceremony.

The on-line announcement of the winners is posted at:  
<http://www.verzio.ceu.hu/index.html>

### **Attendance and Future Plans**

The total number of visits at the Verzio festival film programs: 4,200 viewers, out of them 700 high-school students attending special educational screenings. The growing audience number, the repeated success of the festival, and the positive reception in the press means that Verzio Annual International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival is already a well known cultural event in Budapest. Verzio is also a recognized partner of the international human rights film festivals' network. The festival gives the audience a chance not only to view the best documentary films of the recent years, but to actively take part in discussions with filmmakers and internationally renowned specialists in film and media studies.

## Appendix 5

### Public programs

#### A. Exhibitions

- *The Game – Sam Havadtoy's works in 41 steps* (December 31, 2006 – February 11, 2007) Chess and Communism from Capri to Reykjavik. OSA displayed 41 works by Sam Havadtoy (*Chess and Communism*) in memory of the third game of the 1972 Fischer-Spassky match in Reykjavik, when the Russian chess machine was challenged and finally defeated by the loner from the West.
- *Raoul Wallenberg – one man can make a difference* (March 2 – April 29) OSA Archivum/Galeria Centralis hosted the traveling exhibition about the life of Raoul Wallenberg organized and assembled by the Jewish Museum in Stockholm on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of his disappearance. The exhibition applied non-conventional forms and solutions: it was an exhibition within an exhibition, a building within a building. Numerous joint programs accompanied the exhibition: an all-day educational seminar for secondary school teachers, a seminar about the Life and Symbolic Fate of Raoul Wallenberg for historians, film screenings and public debates. The organizers were the Swedish Institute, Stockholm, the Swedish Embassy in Budapest, and OSA Archivum, Budapest. Partner institutes were: Jewish Museum, Stockholm, Holocaust Memorial Center, Budapest, Raoul Wallenberg Association, Budapest.
- *Composites-on-Tour – International Composites Design Competition* (June 12 – July 1) The exhibition aimed at bringing science closer to the general public. The design exhibition was accompanied by a small scientific exhibition that explained how research and development in the field of composites influences everyday life. It showed visitors in an informal and interactive manner how composite materials are made and why they have such unique properties.
- *Reprints and Objects 1973–2007 – Sándor Pinczehelyi exhibition* (September 20 – October 10) The exhibition of works past and present showed the joys and the aggravations of the years passed, along with the physical changes, the hardships and the anxieties of the times, mixed with a touch of ironic sardonicism. They recorded the conditions both as they were then, in the early 1970s and as they are now, holding up a faithful mirror to the spectator.
- *Chachipe – Photo exhibition from the Chachipe online photography contest* (October 25–November 25, 2007) Under the Decade of Roma Inclusion, the

Open Society Institute (OSI) and OSA Archivum announced an international photography contest entitled "Chachipe". The aims of the contest were to help combat visual stereotypes associated with Roma and to present Roma people and Roma culture sensitively and artistically. The intention was to authentically portray Roma as an integral part of their broader national communities.

## B. Workshops and seminars

- *Seminar on the Life and Symbolic Fate of Raoul Wallenberg* (March 1) The seminar was sponsored and hosted by the Swedish Institute in Stockholm, the Embassy of Sweden, Budapest, and the OSA Archivum.
- *Raoul Wallenberg – One man can make a difference* (March 2) Pedagogical seminar for secondary school teachers about education on the Holocaust and tolerance. The seminar was held in the Auditorium of CEU.
- *Bridging the Divide* (March 22) Canadian and Hungarian stories of the 1956 revolution. An oral history-based methodology seminar on the events of October 1956.
- *New trends in Raoul Wallenberg research* (April 12) Commemorative Research Session by the Holocaust Memorial Center and Memorial Collection Public Foundation
- *Overcoming Dictatorships. The Encounter of Poets, Artists and Writers* (October 12–13) international workshop organized by the OSA Archivum and the Hannah Arendt Institute at the TU Dresden, Germany (Culture 2000 project).
- *Alternative Culture Beyond Borders: Past and Present of the Arts and Media in the Context of Globalization. Alternative Images: Documentary as Counter-Culture* (November 8–9) In collaboration with OSI-HESP Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching. The workshop explored the complex relationship of the 'official' and 'unofficial' in documentary film – making, both in terms of artistic alternatives to commercial production and as politically subversive narrative. It addressed new trends in documentary filmmaking and the transformations caused by the emergence of new visual media.

### C. Public events, film shows

- *George Soros: The Age of Fallibility – Consequences of the War on Terror.* (April 20) Book launch organized together with CEU and OSI.
- *Raoul Wallenberg's Office in the Second House of Sweden* (May 30) The invitees participated simultaneously in three press conferences: at the international press conference in Budapest they were able to follow the virtual press conference in SL and ask questions from the Swedish Foreign Minister, Carl Bildt, and Olle Wästberg, the Director of the Swedish Institute. Sweden was the first country to open a virtual embassy in Second Life, while OSA Archivum was a pioneer in introducing historical content into SL. Together they produced an interactive multimedia exhibition that not only has serious educational and humanitarian implications, but also stretched the boundaries of what can be done with new technologies.
- *Propaganda film in the 20th century* (April–May) Series of the most interesting but rarely screened films of the propaganda genre: Colonial films, Nazi, Soviet, Hungarian and American military, educational, documentary and fiction films, and newsreels were on the program.
- *No Roma!* (August 29 – September 8) Racist films in the Roma Pavilion at the time of the Venice Film Festival. The installation was co-organized by Paradise Lost – The First Roma Pavilion at the Venice Biennale and the Councilor for Culture of the Venice City Council. The images that were shown in the dim attic of the Venice Biennale's Roma Pavilion were not meant to shock but to remind visitors of the not infrequent, disgraceful and inhuman uses of film. The films ran on half-hidden monitors in a cupboard, placed as if by accident in the attic of the palace housing the first ever exhibition of Roma contemporary art at the Biennale; they were skeletons in the closet. They revealed the social and cultural conditions that gave rise to these art works and the spaces where the vast majority of Europe's Roma lived and live.
- *Roundtable: "The Politics of Documentary Today"* (November 9) In collaboration with OSI-HESP Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching. What this roundtable probed was what the expansion and revitalization of the documentary meant for the politics of this form. Does documentary have an impact on politics? How and why? Examples were drawn from films screened at the 2007 Verzio Film Festival.

#### **D. Important visitors at OSA Archivum**

- *Prime Minister Mirek Topolanek, Czech Republic (March 29)*
- *The Board of the New York Philharmonic (May 4)*
- *The Delegation of the Swedish Parliament (November 5)*
- *HRH Prince Hassan and Princess Sarwath of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (November 8)*
- *Ambassador Jaromír Plíšek, Embassy of the Czech Republic, Budapest*
- *Ambassador Robert Hag, Embassy of Canada, Budapest*
- *Ambassador Cecilia Björner, Embassy of Sweden, Budapest*