



Report

on the Activities of the Open Society Archives
between December 2003 and December 2004

Budapest
January 2005

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I New Challenges

Physical plant: changes in OSA's environment – both in the narrow and the broad sense, kept the date of OSA transfer to its new premises pending almost throughout the year until finally, in November 2004 the date was set for July 2005. The lack of external funding will make it possible for CEU Rt. to restore the building only at the most basic level. This leaves OSA with about as much storage space as it has now but if further funds could be secured – at current estimates \$300,000 –, and the structure adequately reinforced, OSA would be able to almost double its storage area. Under the given, strained situation OSA had to abandon the idea of building a new top floor with lecture halls and a screening hall, but until OSA finds new resources the functions of these halls will be taken over by other OSA units within the building.

Professional challenges: in anticipation of the changes to come in 2005 and also to keep pace with the technological development of the world OSA decided to move towards digitizing, and as one of its first digitizing projects chose the Background Reports of the Radio. Also digitized were the records of several human rights organizations, the photo archive of the Hungarian Soros Foundation and records of the Soros Foundations in Serbia, Mongolia, Latvia, Estonia etc.) The move towards digitizing made it necessary to address burning digital preservation issues like ensuring long-term use of the digital records and the purchase of adequate hardware and software, not to mention the customization of the in-house databases for digital image processing. OSA's audio-visual unit is also keeping up with the new trends and is switching over from VHS to DVD. In 2004 not only were new copies made on DVDs, but several collections were transcribed from VHS to DVD.

Capacity building became a key issue in OSA by 2004. The intellectual and professional resources accumulated within the institution have made it a frequent target for requests for training programs in different fields and from different approaches: in 2004 OSA ran a cross-cultural academic course on archives, and records management training programs for NGOs off-site and on-site in several different countries. OSA has already been invited to offer a professional seminar to Iraqi archivists in Jordan in 2005.

OSA's growing international reputation is reflected in its increasing number of partners world-wide, among them the Council of Europe, the Humanitarian Law Center in Belgrade, the Iraq Memory Foundation and the Digital Data Divide. OSA received support to the tune of Euro 210,000 from the EU Culture 2000 project to implement its three year cooperation project "History After the Fall – The Interdeterminacy of the Short Twentieth Century", which involves six recent history

institutions from five countries: the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

Outreach programs – reaching the public at large: the Version International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival organized by the Archives in December 2004 was a real breakthrough in this respect. 100 documentary films from 30 countries were screened in a nearby cinema over three days for an audience of more than 3,000 with an average attendance above 80 per cent of the venue's capacity. All screenings were accompanied by informal discussions between professionals and laymen, while a series of related workshop meetings were run in the CEU building. The success of the event is evidenced not only by the attendance rate but also by the very positive media and professional reception, putting OSA in the headlines of the press.

II Inside OSA

A Staff

It has been OSA's long standing goal to involve CEU students in its processing work, who could then work under the close supervision of OSA's experienced staff. This not only spares working hours for the staff but opens up the Archives towards fresh, new approaches and makes the students familiar with both the holdings of the Archives and the work that is done in it. 2004 saw a record number of 30 students working in OSA under the supervision of OSA staff.

Newcomers to the staff are Oksana Sarkisova, replacing Natasha Lekant as AV archivist and János Ponczók, replacing Tímea Balog as receptionist. Kati Ludman, junior librarian, went on maternity leave in April 2004 but was not replaced. In 2004 the Archives employed Attila Szilágyi in the Records Management unit, who, as a conscientious objector was allowed to serve the period normally spent on military service outside the army. Recent changes of Hungarian military policy mean that OSA hosted one of the last "conscientious objectors" of the Hungarian army.

By November 2004 OSA's staff settled at 24 full time employees, one of whom is on maternity leave, 5 part time employees paid on a monthly basis, one of whom, Attila Balázs is away on unpaid leave to teach in South Korea, and 8 employees paid on an hourly basis (including exhibition attendants and administrative assistants). The 37 employees come from 10 countries.

B Equipment

In 2004 OSA extended its stock of equipment in two directions – both in order to meet the new challenges. To meet its digitizing goals OSA bought a tape drive for digital preservation purposes and Silverfast software to complement the scanner it bought the year before. To better fulfill its new public role OSA bought a Hitachi projector for screening, a portable amplifier and microphone set for public meetings and four DVD recorders and players, since the Audio-Visual unit is switching from VHS to DVDs.

In September 2004 OSA bought 800 linear meters of used shelving in perfect condition from the Hungarian Patent Office in preparation for the move. The shelves will be used in OSA's 14 Oktober 6 street basement storage area, to ease the storage load in the new premises.

C Holdings

1 New acquisitions

Between December 2003 and December 2004 the number of donations made to OSA were well above last year's level. Textual donations included 12 tons of documents from the Russian Soros Foundation, documents of the Uzbek Foundation, a large shipment of documents from Columbia University (a part of the Radio materials that ended up there), Professor Fic's papers and books and the books of János Ölvedi. However, once again, the bulk of the new acquisitions was on the audio-visual side, and even some of the textual donations relate to this, such as the approximately 2,000 amateur radio station cards. The highlight of this year's photo donations is the 110 black and white synagogue photos taken by Anikó Gazda between 1980 and 1987, and donated to OSA by the Photo Archive of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, while the highlights of OSA's film acquisition were the raw footages received from the WITNESS organization in the framework of the Freedom of Speech project supported by the Norwegian Fritt Ord Institution. Among the most valuable additions to the audio-visual holdings are copies of the films screened at the Version Festival.

(a) Textual materials

- Personal papers of Professor Victor M. Fic of Brock University, Canada
- Records relating to East European countries and China 1950–1974, transferred from Columbia University in New York

- Records of the Soros Foundation Hungary, transferred to the Open Society Archives in January, 2004
- Rome Bureau files of Radio Free Europe
- Records of the Uzbek Foundation transferred to OSA in August, 2004
- Records of the Russian Foundation transferred to OSA from Moscow in November, 2004
- approximately 2,000 amateur radio stations' cards
- archival documentation (photos included) of the two former Hungarian holocaust exhibitions displayed in Auschwitz in 1965 and 1980
- six boxes of additional material to the Physicians for Human Rights collection

(b) Library materials

- books of János Ölvédi
- books of Professor Fic
- books of the Hungarian Soros Foundation Library Program
- Russian art journals from the Budapest Metropolitan Library
- book donation by Vera Pécsi

(c) Audio-visual materials

- 110 black and white photographs of synagogues taken by Anikó Gazda, architect, between 1980 and 1987, donated to OSA by the Photo Archive of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage
- 35 black and white photos taken in Košice on August 21, 1968
- 30 educational and propaganda films on DVD, from the former Council on Transportation Safety
- 10 educational and propaganda films on DVD, from the former Public Transportation Company in Budapest
- 250 hours of selected video materials from WITNESS (in the framework of the Fritt Ord Institution Grant)
- copies of the Human Rights documentary films screened at the Version Festival
- 87 Soros Documentary Fund films
- a complete amateur radio transmission set (with earphones and keyboard) produced by Telefunken in 1937

- approximately 150 soviet fiction and documentary films relating to the Cold War and Communism
- 76 Beta tapes with films about George Soros and the Russian Open Society Assistance Foundation, by Boris Dworkin, Russian documentary film maker
- exhibit-related collection development:
 - rare documentaries and newsreels about “Stalin cities”
 - a selection of oral history interviews from the Shoah Foundation and the Fortunoff Video Archives for the Auschwitz exhibition
 - a collection of films for the Divide exhibition

(d) Electronic documents

- 600 new entries for the Civil Circles on-line collection, which is still one of OSA’s most frequently visited collections on the web-site

2 Processing and Preservation

This year’s processing focused on materials relating to the freedom of speech, since the processing of these was sponsored by the Fritt Ord Institution. Several units of the Samizdat collection, sixty per cent of the Information Items, were processed and the processing of the Index on Censorship was completed. In line with OSA’s decision to rely more heavily on CEU student work these materials were mostly processed by students under the close supervision of OSA’s archivists. Since many of OSA’s documents, especially the Russian Foundation materials, the PHR materials and those of the Regional Press Collection of RFE/RL and OMRI, are in bad condition, OSA asked for the help of the Hungarian National Archives. In consultation and cooperation with Gabriella Kunszeri, the leading expert of the Hungarian National Archives, OSA started a preservation project.

Digitizing the damaged or endangered materials is another means of preservation. 2004 saw the initiation of OSA’s scanning project with the digitizing of the RFE/RL Background and Situation Reports, Communist Area Analysis and Press Survey documents in the first place.

Film preservation has also become a main issue in OSA: so far 440 films of the Ministry of Interior have been saved in celluloid format and about 100 transcribed to VHS and DVD format.

Under a 2004 OSA decision finding aids to archival holdings can go on-line even if processing has not reached the stage of total container lists, to offer researchers as much information on the holdings as possible.

(a) Textual materials

- RFE/RL Publication Department – Background Reports: 45,759 pages scanned, about a quarter of the documents
- Indices to background Reports – 5 boxes scanned and currently being proofread
- Romanian Information Items
- Records of Dan Ionescu relating to Romania and Moldavia
- Records of Michael Shafir
- Records of OMRI
- Audio-visual materials relating to the 1956 Revolution
- Interviews relating to Chernobyl
- Personal Papers of András Hegedűs
- Collection of David Rohde
- Film Library

(b) Library materials

- database of archival articles (ongoing project)

(c) Audio-visual materials

- the materials of the exhibitions of “50 years ago it was 100 years ago”, the “Prague Spring” and the “Vietnám & Vietnam”
- approximately 250 video cassettes of the Balkan Archives of IMI were processed (1/10 of the total number of items in this series)
- 200 new films of the Film Library
- Descriptions of Black Box Foundation video interviews relating to the history of RFE/RL were put on-line
- 100 hours of Interior Ministry films transcribed
- 15 hours of Chernobyl-related materials transcribed

(d) Electronic documents

- OSI NY's old website archived on CDs in Budapest. OSA became responsible for archiving the US program records as well
- US program records on CDs

D Automation and Online Services

OSA daily operations are closely supported by its IT infrastructure, custom-designed databases, intranet and public web sites. However, what is more significant is that OSA's archival information management system allows the archive to immediately provide public access to each newly processed unit of its holdings. Since December 2003, six new Fonds have been added to the online finding aids, which now cover over 3,000 linear meters of materials. The total number of archival units available online grew during the last year from 320 to 380.

According to its plans, OSA has started to use scanning for preservation and/or access purposes. At the end of 2004 about 5,000 database entries point to either digital copies or digital records from the OSA holdings.

OSA's active interest in employing leading edge technology and international standards has gained a certain recognition in professional circles. In October 2003 OSA hosted an ERPANET workshop, the final event in the series of workshops dedicated to electronic records preservation and access, organized by the Electronic Resource Preservation and Access Network.

Last year OSA launched its new web site, which, apart from the new look and improved usability, also added a great deal of valuable resources and functionality essential for online research and interaction with the archives. To give only a few examples, the OSA online Guide has been expanded to incorporate the following features:

- search within OSA holdings,
- direct links to archival authorities (donors and others)
- holdings arranged by the language of materials
- new OSA Films library database
- new OSA Books collections database

With the immediate online availability of processed materials, a database-driven linking mechanism and advanced functionality, OSA online Guide has become an indispensable tool for researchers even before they come to the archives.

Other additions to the virtual version of the archives include:

- a new 'OSA Highlights' area which provides a quick visual preview of some of the holdings
- entry points for Russian and Hungarian speaking visitors
- a new 'Projects' area to highlight OSA's cooperation with other institutions

Some of the latest exhibitions were made available for online visitors, among them:

- 05031953 Stalin's death
- Auschwitz 1945-1989
- Peace and Wars

The following online exhibitions are currently being designed:

- 6 Stalin Cities
- The Divide

OSA's online visibility has significantly improved since last year: about 430 unique servers have more than 1,000 links pointing to www.osa.ceu.hu or to individual online documents on the site. As a result of its consistent, intelligent use of IT for archival, administrative and public tasks, OSA has built a strong foundation for the further improvement of its activities to serve researchers and to expand connections with other professional institutions.

E Research Related Activities

1 Reference Services

Visits to OSA's Reading Room reached a record number of 1,537 in 2004. The increase was most visible in the spring of 2004 when 300 per cent more visitors came than in the same period the previous year. This was not a happy exception since visits to the Reading Room were on average above last year's, a steady 7.5 visits per day. However, the average time spent in the Reading Room stayed about the same as last year: 3:51 hours a day. The number of newly enrolled researchers grew to 235 against last year's 213. This 10 per cent increase also proves the steadily growing interest in OSA's materials that is experienced by the staff every day.

On peak days 17 researchers were squeezed into the Reading Room, which can comfortably seat only 10 to 12, so the room had to be rearranged, and new desks and new hardware purchased. The existing hardware, especially the microfilm readers, were used beyond capacity and needed maintenance work more often than in any previous years. To ease the situation two new computers were bought and a new researcher's login was provided for researchers both in the Reading Room and in the Dormitory.

The number of requests also doubled: the Reading Room received 1,375 on-site requests this year, but keeping track of visits, visitors, and pages requested and copied was made easier by the introduction and final customization of the research room database, which follows closely what happens from the moment the researcher enrolls and enters the research room until they finally receive the copies of the material they have requested at the reception. The database provides reliable information in any format and for the most varied purposes at the click of the mouse. All in all 11,710 pages were copied in 2004 (the yearly average in OSA) and the database provides information, among other things, on the time when these were requested, the time when the copies were made and also the name of the person who did the copying.

Information retrieved from the database shows that the most frequently requested materials were those of the Radios, especially the Hungarian, Romanian, Soviet and Polish country series, and right after them various documents on Human Rights.

A new phenomenon is the marked increase of interest in fiction and non-fiction films, thanks to the continuous extension of the Film Library. The growing number of library requests is also remarkable.

One of OSA's main goals has long been to attract more CEU students to its Reading Room. Many of last year's visitors came from CEU, several of them being MA or Ph.D. students engaged in research at the request of OSA. To help them as well as researchers doing research in their vacation time OSA shortened its summer closing period and was closed only for the month of August. The staff was pleased to see the Reading Room frequently visited during the summer hours and decided to continue with the summer opening.

2 Grants

The novelty of 2004 in OSA's grant-related activity was that OSA became a grant recipient on two occasions. It first received a grant of USD 50,000 from the Norwegian Fritt Ord Institution to support OSA's Freedom of Speech-related activities

both in the archival and the public fields, and later in the year OSA received funding from the European Union Culture 2000 program to support its three-year cooperation project.

At the same time OSA kept up its grant-giving function although on a much narrower scale than before. The Research into Recent History Program was closed down, the Thematic Grants budget seriously cut back and the Research Grants sections restricted. However, OSA's internship program, funded mostly out of external resources, was developing very fast. Most of these grants were given for research related to the materials required for the exhibitions, for materials related the Archives course given by OSA at the Legal Department and for materials in the focus of the Fritt Ord Institution.

(a) *Research Grants:* Between December 2003 and December 2004 OSA offered 12 research grants to grantees from seven countries, one more than last year. The topics covered by these grants are published on OSA's web-site. Each grantee was asked to give the staff of OSA a presentation on his/her research results and experiences in OSA before the grant term was over. They were also asked to send their comments or papers to OSA to be published on OSA's web site. These talks were not only very informative but extremely useful in improving OSA's day-to-day routine.

(b) *Thematic Grants:* in 2004 OSA only offered a few grants, all of them towards its exhibition program. This category covers seven small grants ranging between \$500 and \$1,000. Two grants of \$ 2,000 each were offered towards research into the history of RFE/RL . The largest grant was given jointly with the Tilburg University in the Netherlands for research into informational rights.

(c) *Internships:*

- OSA's joint internship program with the Human Rights Students' Initiative stream at CEU continued throughout the year and was extended to other departments. This year OSA welcomed 30 students from within CEU against last year's 10.
- OSA was chosen as a host for Anna Wennebrink from TVB in Sweden for her professional internship in the final year of her studies in project management.
- Balázs Czetz from the Fejér County Archives was OSA's Hungarian archivist intern this year. His report is available in Hungarian only.

(d) *The Support for Research in Recent History program* was closed on June 30, 2003. However, four grants which extend beyond this date were continued. Several of them were completed during the year, such as the Beneš memoirs,

the oral history interviews with Chechen intellectuals and the Krasnoyarsk architectural heritage project.

F Records Management

The Soros Network's recognition of OSA's records management work came in a very visible format to OSA in 2004: a total of USD 180,000 was allotted to OSA by OSI New York to cover the costs of its network-related activities. This amount covers new hardware and software needed for the digitizing program, for some extension of the storage area to house the incoming foundation materials, for on-site counseling and training and for covering emergency actions like disinfecting documents.

- OSI Budapest – a records center was set up with the help of OSA's RM team, followed up by day-to-day consultations and training sessions on RM issues
- OSI NY – regular consultations were offered on closed down US program records (including scanning procedures, logistics, metadata set-up)
 - training was provided for the NY Records Coordinator
 - OS NY Records Retention Schedule was updated
 - The Forced Migration Project was processed
- OSI Russia – after consultations on archiving and RM issues related to the transformation of the foundation, 400 boxes were transferred to Budapest in November 2004. Cleaning, disinfecting and inventorying these are still ongoing.
- Soros Foundation Hungary – an agreement between the Foundation and OSA was finally reached in January 2004, and the records were transferred to OSA in the same month. Reviewing the records was finished by mid 2004. Digitizing them is still ongoing.
- ISF – records were prepared and scanned, and CDs were prepared for long-term archival preservation.
- Archiving projects are ongoing in the countries of the Network
 - West-Balkans: OSA RM staff regularly visited these countries to offer free inventory, legal investigation and physical assistance with arranging and appraising records.
 - Baltic countries (Latvia, Estonia): on the occasion of an on-site visit consultations were carried out concerning the most burning RM issues.
 - Uzbekistan: on the occasion of an on-site visit USAID files were sorted out, financial files segregated and 60 boxes were transferred to Budapest.
 - Mongolia: digitizing the documents on-site is on-going. OSA receives only digital copies.

- Slovakia, Czech Republic: on-site training and consultations were held relating to records inventorying and segregating issues.

III OSA Outreach and Inreach Projects

The uncertainty concerning its future move further strained OSA's already overstretched capacities. However, it did carry on the international projects it had initiated in 2002, such as the Martus Project and the Parallel History Project, was preparing to start its Culture 2000 project and to conclude its Freedom of Speech project. However, the year culminated in OSA's most successful public event, the Version International Human Right Documentary Film Festival, which filled the screening halls for four days, even though there were three similar events running in town at the same time. Both the Hungarian and international professional circles and the general public called for a continuation of the Festival.

The Festival was accompanied by a series of workshops and public lectures but other public lectures were also offered by OSA during the year. Visits to OSA by distinguished professionals also offered unique opportunities to exchange ideas.

A Archival Projects

- 1** The Hungarian National Archives (MOL) and OSA started a long-term cooperation project in 2003. Hungarian-speaking archivists from OSA took internship with MOL and the two institutions provided each other with professional help in the emergency situation of infected documents arriving in OSA.
- 2** OSA organized Records Management training for the Foundations on-site.
- 3** In the framework of the Fritt Ord project OSA entered into cooperation with the WITNESS organization, which provided OSA with 250 hours of footage, while OSA helped WITNESS to obtain technical equipment for dubbing.
- 4** By the end of 2004 OSA completed a several-year-long research project for the Council of Europe on the state of access to Archives in 48 European countries. The handbook compiled on the basis of vast research material by the two leading experts in the field, Károly Kecskeméti, former General Secretary of ICA and Iván Székely of OSA, will be published in 2005 by the Council of Europe.

B Educational and Research Projects

In 2004 OSA continued its involvement with the educational activities of both the Central European University and other Hungarian universities, and made further efforts to open up its collection to the wider public by organizing guided tours of its exhibitions and film shows. It also initiated large-scale international cooperation in the research and educational fields with its Culture 2000: "History After the Fall – the Interdeterminacy of the Short Twentieth Century" project. An abbreviated list of activities follows:

- 1 OSA offered in the Fall Semester of Academic Year 2004/2005 a one-credit, 14-hour course to the Human Rights Program students of the CEU/Legal Department, entitled Archives, Evidence and Human Rights, for which students from five countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America eventually signed up.
- 2 Human Rights Internship was offered to Legal Studies MA and Ph.D. students to work on the processing of OSA's human-rights related collections under the supervision of a staff archivist.
- 3 OSA organized a short archival presentation and training session for the participants of the 2004 Summer School "Intellectual Property in Comparative Perspective: Cultural Implications of Technological Change" in CEU.
- 4 OSA internship calls for CEU students from other departments attracted many applicants. OSA was in the fortunate position of being able to choose the thirty students with the right linguistic and educational background for the archival processing tasks.
- 5 The CEU Zero week presentations have become the general start-of-the-year routine and the tours and presentations result in dozens of new research enrollments.
- 6 Film series for the public and also for student groups from other universities were continued. The most successful was "the Holocaust in Documentary Cinema" where 12 films were screened in the Galeria Centralis on the occasion of the Auschwitz exhibition.
- 7 On the occasion of its on-site and virtual Auschwitz exhibitions OSA hosted two roundtable discussions, one with the participation of James E. Young from Amherst University, László Rajk, architect and István Rév, historian, the other one with the participation of Zsuzsanna Toronyi of the Hungarian Jewish

Museum, Géza Komoróczy of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and András Mink, historian.

- 8 The Version International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival sponsored by several media organizations, by the Embassies of the United States and of the Netherlands was held in the nearby Toldi cinema from December 2 to December 5.
- 9 In December 2004 OSA initiated a drive to provide every single homeless person in town with a sleeping bag. In cooperation with several partners and during a record time of two months it managed to secure 5,000 sleeping bags and the money to buy as many more as were needed.

C Galeria Centralis

In 2004 OSA opened five new exhibitions in its Galeria Centralis and two at external venues, keeping up with its tradition of six to seven exhibitions a year. However, possibly as a result of the very sophisticated nature of two of the most important exhibitions, the number of visitors was considerably lower than in previous years. The total figure is 6,565, not counting the over 3,000 visitors who saw the photo exhibition mounted on the walls of the cinema during and after the film festival. Even with that the total number is only two thirds of last year's, but the comments of the visitors and the publicity the exhibitions received made up for the deficiency in the numbers.

- 1 6 Stalin Cities (January 16 – March 31) The exhibition is intended to give a comprehensive overview of the Eastern European cities which, mainly after 1949, were named after J.V. Stalin: Katowice , Eisenhüttenstadt, Dunaújváros, Brasov , Varna and Stalingrad , the latter named after the generalissimo as early as the 1920s.
- 2 2 Strokes (February 26 – March 31) – on external venue. 100 selected photos speak about the romantic emotions which linked the two-stroke-engined cars of the early sixties and their proud, caring owners.
- 3 Auschwitz (1945 – 1989) – Reconstruction (April 22 – May 30) The reconstruction of the first two official Hungarian Auschwitz exhibitions, which opened on site during the period of Communist rule in 1965 and 1980. Also as a virtual exhibition.
- 4 Divide (June 15 – August 29) Since the outbreak of the second intifada in September 2000, the number of Palestinian attacks against Israelis has risen

significantly. In order to prevent uncontrolled access by Palestinians from the West Bank to Israel and thus further attacks, the Israeli government decided in June 2002 to build a physical barrier along or near the Green Line (the 1949 Armistice Line).

- 5 Peace and Wars (September 15 – November 28) Dictatorships, occupied countries. A photo exhibition by Normantas Paulius.
- 6 Discovering Russia (November 3 – November 28) The exhibition features a parallel series of works by two contemporary artists, Lev Melihov and Alexander Sabitov. The large-format photos offer a new perspective on the people, landscapes, towns and cities of Russia, which ordinary foreigners have so far known only through images in travel guides, if at all.
- 7 Rebuilding (Photos of Synagogues by Aniko Gazda) (December 2 December 15) – on the occasion of the opening event of OSA's Culture 2000 project. Anikó Gazda, architect, in the course of an extensive urban survey project photographed all the existing synagogues between 1980 and 1987, creating a map of synagogues: a unique and outstanding achievement of the time.
- 8 OSA has a small display window in the corridor of CEU, where it regularly arranges timely mini-exhibitions either to complement its Galeria exhibitions or to call the attention of the CEU community to important anniversaries of major events. This year's window displays were all linked by the number 10: the 10th anniversary of the establishment of ICTY, the 10th commemoration of the Rwandan genocide, the 10th commemoration of the first Sarajevo market shelling by Serbian artillery

D Publications and Conferences

Earlier grants offered to researchers by OSA have resulted in a number of publications, The publications of 2004 are Sergey Cheikhetov's Shadow Structure of Stalin's Society , Mara Ustinova's Oral History Interview Series with Chechen Intellectuals and the forthcoming Beneš Memoirs. However, OSA itself initiated out a small project: to publish an article about itself in the historical or archival journals of the countries of the former communist block in the language of the country. So far only the Ukrainian article has appeared, but publication of the article is scheduled and confirmed for 2005 in the Czech Republic, in Slovakia, Germany, Croatia, Yugoslavia and Romania.

A quite unique publication is copyrighted by one of OSA's staff, Miklós Tamási, who wrote the script of "The Life of an Agent", a film based on footage in the Archives. The opening event of the Version International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival was marked by the first screening of this work.

Unlike in the previous year, in 2004 OSA hosted two events of major professional importance. Both of them were very well attended and received very favorable professional reviews.

- Workflow in Digital Preservation (October 13-15, 2004) - this very successful workshop organized in co-operation with ERPANET explored issues of workflow modeling and standardization in digital preservation, to present examples and experiences and to show which steps in workflow chains can best be automated.
- "Freedom of Information Today and Tomorrow" – Conference jointly organized with the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information.

In 2004, just as in 2003, the staff of OSA traveled extensively. They attended 24 conferences in almost as many locations. A detailed list follows:

- January 26 – February 2: The Transparency Task Force of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue, third annual meeting, Global Development Network, fifth annual conference, National Campaign for People's Right to Information, meeting, public hearings organized by activists of the grassroots movement MKSS, discussions with leaders for Centre of Equity Studies, all in Delhi and other places in India. (Iván Székely, Counsellor – all costs covered by the host)
- March 1–2: Visits to the Soros Foundations in Riga, Latvia and Tallinn, Estonia. The visit to Riga was combined with a one-day workshop held by the National Archives there; at the time, the Archival Law and the Archival Instruction were mandatory for NGOs in the country (Anna Svenson, Chief Archivist).
- March 5–12: Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto, Canada, two lectures, at the invitation of the Hungarian Research Institute of Canada, on models of openness and secrecy and on transparency and access to information in the Central and Eastern European region, and meetings with and visits to the Information and Privacy Commissioner in Ontario, Bioscrypt Inc., a Canadian hi-tech company, the Centre for Innovation Law and Policy (Iván Székely, Counsellor – all costs covered by the host)
- March 6–10: Meeting of the Program Management Commission (CPM) of the International Council on Archives, in Boppard, Germany. During the meeting (in which Anna Svenson took part as one of five non-members of CPM) the structure

of the professional and technical programs and the new organizational framework of ICA were set up, in preparation for the Vienna conference in August (Anna Svenson, Chief Archivist).

- March 25: Site visit to the National Foundation in Bratislava, Slovakia, mainly to inventory early board records and executive files, compile an e-list of all grantees, prepare for future digitizing of their records and provide a short training program for staff. (Vania Nedialkova, Records Coordinator, and Branislav Kovačević, Records Assistant).
- March 26: Site visit to the National Foundation in Prague, Czech Republic, mainly to identify records important for the history of OSF Prague and to negotiate their transfer to OSA (Branislav Kovacevic, Records Assistant).
- April 15–20: Seminar for Film Festival Organizers, Prague, Czech Republic. The seminar dealt with three topics: How to Start? Learning Lessons from Others, The Role Played by Festivals, and Human Rights Film Network. The fruits of this seminar could be enjoyed at the Version International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival which was subsequently organized by OSA in Budapest in December (Zsuzsa Zádori, Supervisory AV Archivist – all costs covered by the host).
- 22–23 April: Site visit to the Fund for an Open Society-Serbia. This was a follow-up to the seminar which OSA organized in October in Budapest. The main aim was to review the inventorying of the active records, to identify records important for the history of FOS-Serbia and to negotiate their temporary transfer to OSA for copying – either on paper or in digital form. (Branislav Kovačević, Records Assistant).
- June 8–11: Conference of the Association of Slovak Archivists, on the theme “Five Decades of Archival Legislation.” The conference was also attended by archivists from the Czech Republic and Hungary. P. Šalamon gave a paper on Slovaca at OSA and informed the participants of the vast amount of material on the former Czechoslovakia held by OSA (including microfilms of the daily papers until 1972). The paper will be downloadable from the OSA website in Slovak and English. Trenčín, Slovakia. (Pavol Šalamon, Senior Supervisory Archivist – all costs covered by the host).
- June 2–5: The Meaning of Death in Society Today, conference organized by the Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen, Institute for Human Sciences (István Rév, director – all costs covered by the host)

- June 19–20: The Transparency Task Force of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue, fourth meeting, Washington D.C., USA (Iván Székely, Counsellor – all costs covered by the host).
- June 24: First meeting of the Social Workpackage of the EU FP6 Project PRIME (Privacy and Identity Management for Europe) at The Center for Law, Public Administration and Informatization, Tilburg University, the Netherlands. Iván Székely gave a presentation on the Hungarian and Central and Eastern European culture of collection and handling of personal data with special regard to "e-relationships". (Iván Székely, Counsellor – all costs covered by the host).
- August 23: Board meeting of the ICA journal *Comma*, in Vienna, Austria (Anna Svenson, Chief Archivist).
- August 24–27: International Congress on Archives, Vienna, Austria. This world conference is held every four years, and the theme this time was "Archives, Memory and Knowledge". Gabriella Ivacs represented OSA at the meeting of the Section for International Organizations, Anna Svenson gave a short presentation on OSA in the session devoted to human rights and archives of international organizations, and chaired the session on oral history. (Sergey Glushakov, IT manager, Gabriella Ivacs, Supervisory Records Manager, Pavol Šalamon, Senior Supervisory Archivist, Anna Svenson, Chief Archivist).
- September 28 – October 1: Conference on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Czech National Archives. A paper on Bohemoslovacica in OSA was held by Pavol Šalamon at this international gathering. (This paper will be downloadable from the OSA website in English and Slovak.- all costs covered by the host)
- October 1–2, "Dealing with the Past in ex-Yugoslavia", conference organized by the Humanitarian Law Center in cooperation with the Council of Europe. Participants from the Balkans, ICTY in the Hague, the tribunals in Sierra Leone and East Timor, as well as from universities and research institutions dealing with the Balkans and transitional justice. Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro (Anna Svenson, Chief Archivist)
- October 2–5: Visit to the Bremen Institute of Eastern Europe. The main goal was to meet the staff members and to get an overview of the archival holdings, especially those related to samizdat and alternative culture, and to discuss ways of further cooperation with OSA. Bremen, Germany. (Olga Zaslavskaya, Archivist)
- October 9–16: Pordenone Silent Film Festival, Italy (Oksana Sarkisova, AV archivist – all costs covered by the host)

- October 13–15 Conference on the Impact of Cold War Broadcasting organized by the Hoover Institution and the Woodrow Wilson Center in Stanford California (István Rév, director – all costs except travel met by the host)
- October 18–19: Site visit to the Open Society Foundations in Serbia and Montenegro. This visit was a follow-up to the seminar in Budapest the previous autumn, and the main aim was to assess the progress made in consolidating, inventorying and protecting the records of the Foundations. (Gabriella Ivacs, Supervisory Records Manager, Branislav Kovačević, Records Assistant – all costs out of OSI fund)
- October 26–31: 8th International Documentary Film Festival in Jihlava, the Czech Republic (Oksana Sarkisova, AV Archivist – all costs covered by the host)
- November 13–16: Site Visit to Open Society Foundation, London. The visit was made at the request of the Media Program Director, and the immediate purpose was to move on with the records management project which had started at the program in January, prior to the move to London. The larger task was to attempt to set up office-wide record- keeping regulations. (Vania Nedialkova, Records Coordinator – all costs covered by the host)
- December 1–5: Site visits to the Open Society Foundations in Macedonia and Croatia. This visit was a follow-up to the seminar organized in Budapest the previous year, and the aim was to assess the progress made in consolidating, inventorying and protecting the records of the Foundations. (Branislav Kovacevic, Records Assistant – all costs out of OSI fund)

E. Personal and Media Contacts

1. Visits to OSA

Although 2004 did not see as many political celebrities in OSA as there had been in the previous year, the visitors who came were equally distinguished on the professional side: Archivists from different countries came to visit OSA, including the entire staff of the Regional Archives of Lund and the City Archives of Malmo and the Chief Archivist of the South African National Archives. Marc Levine, Senior Project Manager of Martus, visited the Archives in October; Professor Greenblatt, the renowned Shakespeare specialist, visited OSA in June, and Harry Wu, one of the world's best known human rights activists, came in December.

2. Media representation

Apart from the regular media coverage that OSA receives, in 2004 there were two exceptional events: one was OSA's close cooperation with several media partners (among them [©] – "face", known for its giant poster actions) towards OSA's "Does it leave you cold?" sleeping bag drive, which brought exceptionally swift and generous returns, the other event was the Film Festival, where different media organizations offered two million forints' worth of publicity.

IV Future

At the end of 2004 OSA is already slowly packing and preparing to meet the new challenges that it set for itself two years ago: to fundamentally restructure its activities and to define its new role.

The move into the new building is scheduled for July 2005. By then OSA will not only have to be ready with packing and inventorying but with the decision about which road to take.