

## **CHILE: NATIONAL REPORT**

### **A. Size and state of the publishing industry of the country.**

It has been possible to measure the publishing industry of the country through publications of Chilean publishing agents who ask for the assignment of the ISBN. The registered output, according to this source was, for the year 1997, 2093 titles; and for 1998, 1088 titles.

This assignment process bears no strict relation to the titles which come out in the market, and depends on other factors, such as the specific plans of each publisher, commercial opportunity, etc.

From the obtained data, is possible to appreciate that most of the published books belong to first editions and decrease considerably in the second and third editions.

Among the subjects most published in Chile, literature is 37,4% of the total followed by education with 10,51%; technology/academic 7,21%, history 6,35%, law 5,77%, religion 5,71% and other subjects even less. If we consider the quantity of books translated and published in Chile, there were 777 translated titles between 1992 and 1998, a 54,44% of them (423) were from English into Spanish, followed by translations from French into Spanish.

The average print-run according to available data ranges from 1,000 to 1,500 samples per print-run. Most publishing houses are limited liability companies followed by joint stock companies, natural persons and institutions. Among companies with the greatest output volume during 1997, outstanding is Jurídica de Chile/Andrés Bello, Editorial Universitaria, Editorial Jurídica Manuel Montt.

During 1992-1996 the total value of imports was US\$ 126,6 million, of which US\$ 57,6 million were for literature, u\$s 33.8 million were for technical/academic books, 13 million for dictionaries, 12,6 million for encyclopedias and 9,6 for school books.

Publishing activity by the way of self-edition has increased progressively in the country from 1,76% in 1993 to 12,55% in 1997, and has remained the same up to 1999.

In the country there are 888 registered publishing houses with ISBN assigned, including public and private publishing houses.

Book imports have increased constantly as from 1993, and the main importers are: Océano de Chile, Bibliográfica Internacional, Planeta Chilena, McGraw-Hill Interamericana de Chile, Norma de Chile, Zigzag and Libros Kuarto.

Most imports, 44,6%, are from Spain followed by 12,2% from the USA, 11,1% from Argentina, 9,8% from Colombia and 8,7% from Mexico.

Besides imports carried out by the publishing sector, there is an additional 16,16% of books imported which represent private purchases.

## **B. Relation between demand/need of national users/suppliers**

As the demand for published material is greater than what is offered by the national market, university libraries, specialized libraries and others, this material must be imported directly from foreign suppliers.

Book purchases are made throughout the year, except in the last two months during which the budget for the new year is prepared.

In Chile suppliers offer books in Spanish of publishers who distribute in Chile, as well as books in other languages, which are in stock and whose price is reasonable on an international level, and which are bought when they are urgently needed.

Books in other languages are generally bought abroad, from distributors in the USA, France, UK, Spain, Mexico and Argentina. Purchase can also be made directly from publishers or through the Internet.

## **C. Bibliographic control**

The National Library is in charge of controlling the Chilean bibliographic output, through the legal deposit, with two samples of all printed matter being handed in for this purpose.

## **D. State of the Bookselling Trade**

The bookselling trade in Chile has experienced irregular growth, as evidenced by statistics provided by the Chilean Book Chamber, which brings together publishers, booksellers, distributors and direct sales organizations. Sales have been affected by the 18% VAT tax on domestic purchases and imports.

Chilean publishing industry has expanded steadily, renewing and broadening its catalogue of exportable offers to Spanish speaking countries, with high quality graphic support.

The most favorable opportunities for marketing are International Fairs and Trade Missions.

#### EXPORTS IN 1998 (IN U\$S)

Loose leaf Books	3,093,048
Dictionaries and encyclopedias	1,751,971
School Books	1,705,847
Academic, scientific and technological books	39,468,767
Literature books	7,699,313
Total exports	53,722,948

### **F. Current state of the legal deposit**

Act 16.643 of August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1967 of the Ministry of Justice, provides the following:

Every publisher shall send the National Library 15 samples of any printed material published, whatever its nature, at the time of its publication. If they are journals, posters, or other similar prints, he shall also send two samples to the respective Town Hall or Governor's office.

If the prints are of a legal nature, a copy shall also be sent to the Biblioteca de la Asesoría Jurídica del Ministerio del interior. (Legal Counsel Library of the Interior Ministry.)

The Act further states that any representation of human thought, in printed form, disks, tapes, microchips, multimedia publications, computer files, maps or other similar procedures, intended to be offered to the public shall be considered printed/ published matter.

The National Library shall keep two samples in the Chilean section of such printed matter sent in accordance with legal provisions, which will not be available for consultation, and as a reserve not to be touched, except with a prior resolution of

the Ministry of Education. A sample of each book or printed material shall be sent to the Ministry General Secretariat of Government and to the Congress Library, if requested, and the rest of the samples may be kept or distributed at the publisher's will.

According to the National Library's Statistics in 1998 they received 2868 monographs.

## **G. National Acquisition Policies**

We cannot speak of a national acquisition policy for each institution formulates its policies according to its mission and resources. As regards acquisitions for education, the Government, through the Ministry of Education, formulates its acquisition policies for school libraries and for material necessary for primary and secondary education.

University libraries have made efforts to achieve cooperative acquisitions, which enables the acquisition of foreign journals through a consortium called "Alerta al Conocimiento" which deals with Swets & Zeitlinger of Holland. This system offers the advantage of an additional discount on prices which varies according to the date of subscriptions payment. Other institutions such as ours, also participate in this consortium acquiring foreign journals through Alerta.

In addition to the formation of this consortium, a system of bibliographic exchange, based on requests for copies of articles, has been established among all libraries that decided to offer this service, especially university libraries.

The relations among libraries of different sectors are relative. There is a bond among university libraries mainly through an official body called "Consejo de Rectores" (Rectors Council), which among other activities, holds regular meetings with university library directors in the Library Committee. From this Committee, university interlibrary co-operation agreements arise.

The Chilean Librarian Association meets every year during the Book Fair of Santiago, which is visited by a great number of Chilean librarians, and is an opportunity not only to network but also to update on their profession.

## **H. Libraries which are beneficiaries of the Legal Deposit**

As already mentioned the National Congress Library, as beneficiary of the Legal Deposit, increases its collection on subjects related to its objectives with the material it receives through the legal deposit. In this way, it obtains monographs,

journals, newspapers and weekly national information leaflets, which are withdrawn from the offices of the National Library of Chile.

Our Library is both a parliamentary library and a library for the general public, mainly university students, researchers, journalists, etc. Due to the fact that it is a beneficiary of the Legal Deposit, it has in its collection updated Chilean material, which can be consulted in our reading rooms in Valparaíso and Santiago, or through a loan.

The National Library of Chile, besides being in charge of preserving national bibliography, is at the same time a public library which attends to all adults over 18 years. It also has libraries for consultation and loans in different parts of the country to serve schools.

Its greatest bibliographic holdings are made up of the materials it receives through the legal deposit. .

## **I. Retention and Conservation Policy.**

As established by law, the National Library has the mission of preserving and keeping 2 samples of all printed matter published in the country. These samples make up the National Bibliography reserve and are not lent to the public.

## **J. Current state of interlibrary loans.**

Most interlibrary loans are among university libraries, which belong to the Rectors Council. They operate under strict rules, and every library which requests a loan for one of its users is responsible for returning the material having signed the loan request.

Generally the user is in his second or higher years working on his thesis. At the end of each academic year, he must return all the loans from other libraries otherwise, he cannot sit for his end of the year final examinations.

The interlibrary loan system also functions with other private university libraries but in a more restricted way.

As university library collections are on line (RENIB), this technology allows for better and quicker interlibrary loans, for it enables the search of information.

Generally bibliographic exchange requests are for articles of journals, which have been tracked down in a collection in the country. The request is sent by e-mail

indicating clearly the details of the requested data, its location, name of the article, the page, etc. The material requested is quickly sent by fax.

CONICYT has a paid bibliographic exchange service, which receives requests for articles of journals that may be in the country or abroad.

## **K. Technology and collections**

The libraries best equipped to offer interlibrary loans and which have an established system are the university libraries, because they have complete specialized collections, as well as ad-hoc technology.

## **L. International requests for interlibrary loans.**

International requests for interlibrary loans are not granted for monographs because in that case they try to sell the requested book.

In the case of requests for articles of foreign journals, which are not available in collections in the country, every institution - generally universities - make these requests through foreign commercial suppliers, separately.

With the use of the Internet and the databases available through this medium, requests for information generated outside the country can be obtained directly.

## **M. Collective catalogues.**

The biggest collective catalogue of the country is the Red Nacional de Información Bibliográfica (RENIB) (National Network of Bibliographic Information). It is a network of on line interconnected libraries and documentation centers, and its purpose is to build bibliographic databases to control the information available in the country. As a result of registering the collections of each participating library, national bibliographic databases have been drawn up, which include collections of monographs, serialized publications, analytical entries of journals, documents of the national archive, manuscripts.

RENIB functions in the Dirección General de Bibliotecas, Archivos y Museos (State Library, Archive and Museum Office) reporting to the Ministry of Education.

It has been possible to maintain a database of authorities to which every member contributes providing new entries that increase the Network day by day. 18 of the country's libraries participate in RENIB.

There are several other databases in Chile which have resulted from the formation of a network of related libraries, and which may be consulted through the Internet. The database or collective catalogue of journals that university libraries have and which is coordinated by CONICYT, Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (CONICYT) (National Technology and Science Research Commission) is outstanding. It has members all over the country and may be consulted from any workstation of its components and in the case of the Congress Library, can be consulted via the Internet.

## **N. Important national collections.**

The main library with a real national collection is the National Library, which besides being the trustee of the national bibliography is a public library for adults over 18 years old.

Our Congress Library, besides receiving a sample of the Legal Deposit, acquires everything published by the Editorial Jurídica de Chile and by other Chilean publishers regarding legal books and journals. Moreover, in its web page, it has access to legislative databases, containing acts, decrees, jurisprudence, Chilean codes, Diario Oficial de Chile, Labor Parlamentaria, International Agreements, regional information of the country, as well as its collections of Chilean books or books published in Chile, acquired by means of purchases, donations or exchange.

The municipal public libraries of Chile, offer their national collections to their users, besides what they purchase on the national market of foreign bibliography, whenever their small budget allows them to make acquisitions.

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