Changes in organization, continuity in cooperation

Library and Research Service at the Hungarian National Assembly

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Content

- History of Library and research services
- Information Service for MPs
- Organizational changes in 2014
- Future relationship of the Library & the Research Service
History of the Library

1870:
- Foundation
- Exclusive Library for MPs.

“the House of Representatives shall set up a library for the use of its Members”
History of the Library

1951:
- Open to the public
- Academic library of law, political sciences & modern history
- Under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture
History of the Library

1990:
- Reunification with the Parliament
- Double: parliamentary & public functions

1991:
Special unit for parliamentary users: Department of Information Services for MPs
Library & research: 1991

Library
– open to the public

Department of
Information Services for MPs
• special reading rooms for library services
• tailor-made information services
• background materials, research services
  (step by step)
Library & research: 2004

Library
– open to the public

Department of Information Services for MPs
• library services
• tailor-made information services
• compiled background materials

Research Service
• analyses
Information Service for MPs

- Relevant, objective, impartial and up-to-date information for MPs, for their experts & staff, civil servants of the Office & MEPs
- Integrated library, information & research services
- Common information points in both buildings
- 15 staff members
Background materials for memorial speeches on national holidays & other illustrious days, historical anniversaries (50 items annually), composed of:
- documents;
- academic & press articles;
- earlier speeches of leading politicians;
- statistics;
- poems.
Background materials for hearings of minister-nominees & for regular hearings (10-15/year):
- **prior to the appointment**: political profile of minister-nominees (curriculum vitae, selected publications & interviews)
- **regular hearings**: publications, interviews
Regular (daily, weekly or monthly) **press & media reviews** by the order of committees or factions (29 different topics – 800 items/year):

- news of National News Agency;
- articles from press & periodicals;
- online media;
- TV & radio interviews.
Comparative analyses on the actual policy topics & the topics of bills (30 items/year):
- institutional & procedural matters of national parliaments;
- policy topics;
- country profiles (EU member states);
- comparative summary & conclusions.
Information briefings on the topics of draft bills on the agenda (50 items/year):
- short description (4 pages);
- legal framework;
- facts & figures;
- references to relevant documents;
- available on intra- & internet.
http://www.parlament.hu/infoszolg
8000-8500 requests/year (34/workday)

2013

- Library services: 29%
- Information & research: 68%
- Other: 4%
Changes in 2013/2014

- Speaker
- General Director
- Director of the Speaker
- Directorate of Legislation
- Directorate of Finance & Administration
- Directorate of Cultural Affairs
- Directorate for Foreign Relations
- Press Department
- Library
- Information Service for MPs
- Parliamentary Museum
- PR Department
Agreement on cooperation

Library
- library services to public
- library resources for parliamentary users
- resources for research

Information Service for MPs
- integrated services for parliamentary users
- library services
- tailor-made information services
- research services, analyses
Advantages of cooperation („4 C”):

- **Continuity** of services
- **Convenience** for users
- **Clarity** & visibility
- **Cost-effective** service management
“... whatever the organisational arrangements, for a fully effective service to be provided to users it is important that the library and the research service have close working relationships.”

Keith Cuninghame

Thank you for your attention!

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