Czech Historical Bibliography. Plans and Perspectives. Search for the Place on the Border of Two Virtual Worlds (the World of Historians and the World of Librarians)

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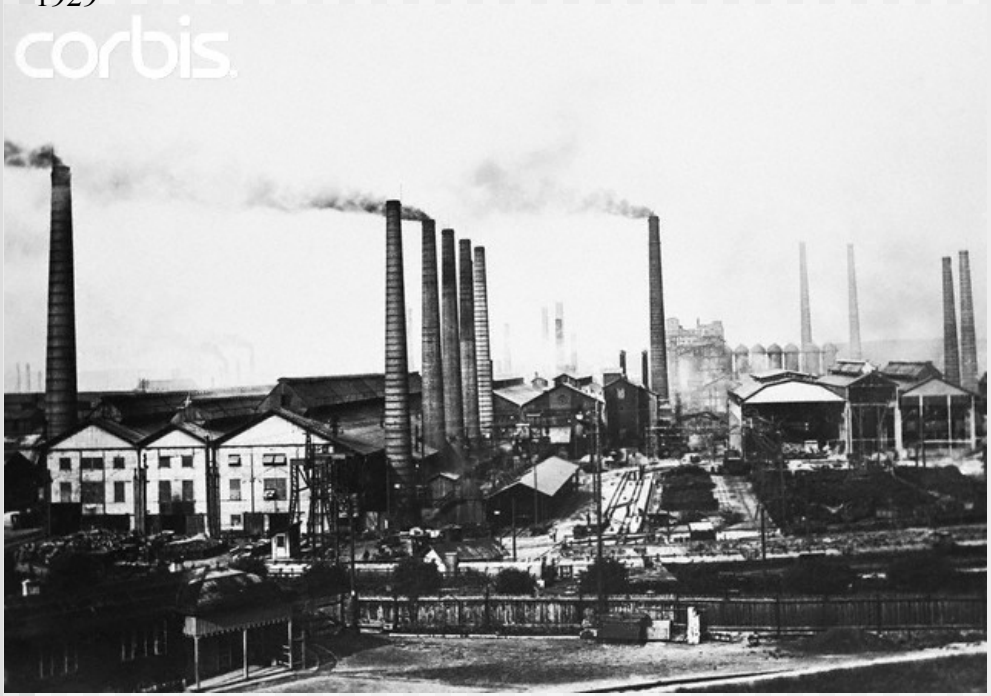
We experienced the extinction of things that had been present with us for over a century and that we had perceived as eternal…

Poldi Kladno

famous metallurgical and machine works, founded 1889

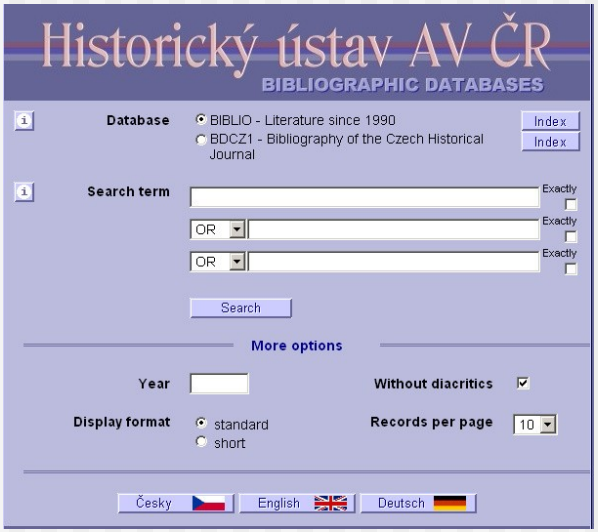
1929

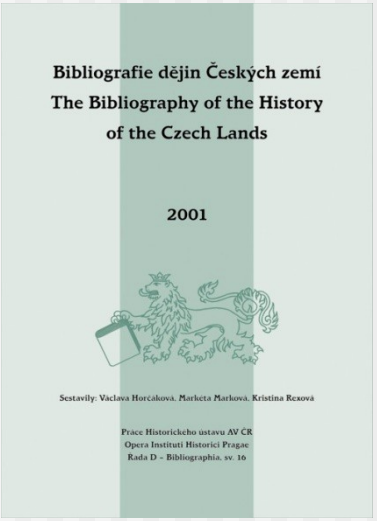


2009

Bibliography of the History of the Czech Lands, founded 1905

After 1989
- publishing of the printed bibliographic yearbooks
- since the year 2000 online database (biblio.hiu.cas.cz)
- CD-ROM containing the complete bibliographic database as an attachement of the bibliographic yearbooks

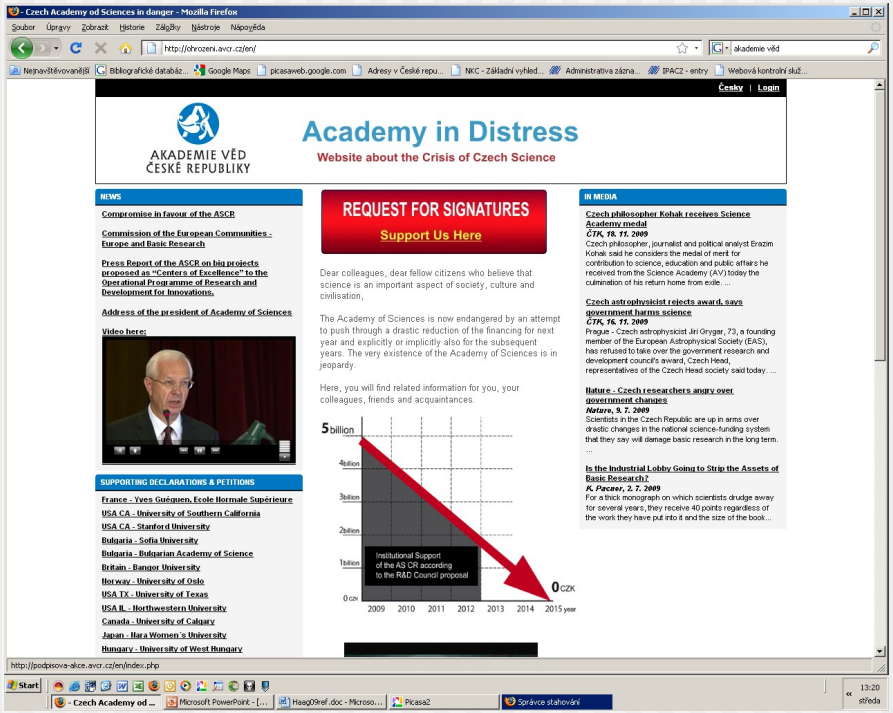




Reformation of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

Bibliography of the History of the Czech Lands

- discontinued the print of the yearbooks
- displaced staff member



http://ohrozeni.avcr.cz/en/

What possibilities do we have to adapt bibliography to the needs of the ever-changing world to make it an essential and necessary source of information even in times flooded by information available on-line?

- Is the Czech historical bibliography still interesting for the Czech community of historians and international community of bohemicists or can they find the same or even better information from other resources?
- What makes it unique?
- What makes the bibliographic database a trustworthy source of scientific information?
- What significance has an independent professional bibliography for libraries and librarians as intermediaries of orientation in information sources for the large part of the professional community as well as laity?

Data conversion of BDČZ into the international exchange format MARC 21

- used by the National Library, libraries of the Academy of Sciences including the Library of the Historical Institute

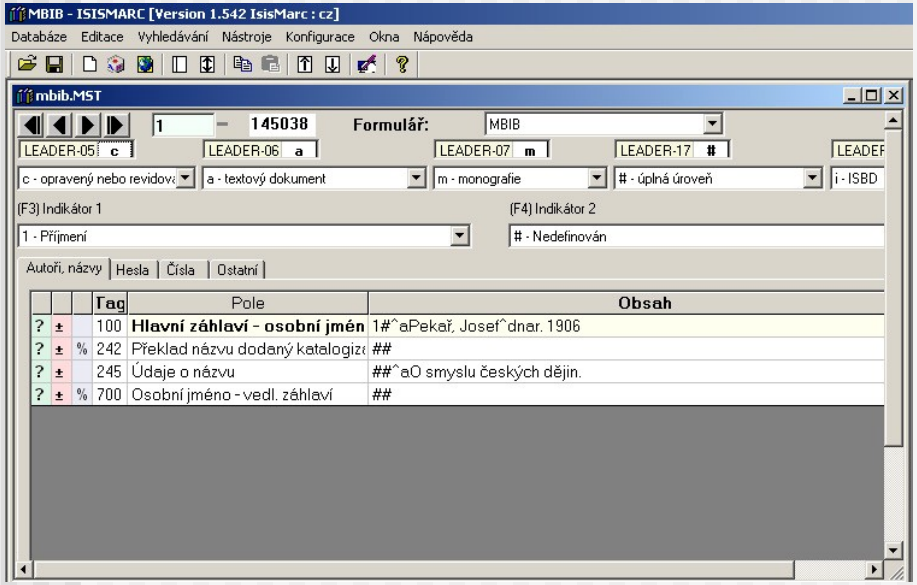
- the expert supervision over the data conversion was provided by the staff of the National Library in Prague

- currently we completed conversion of all data in the database (over 150.000 records) into MARC 21

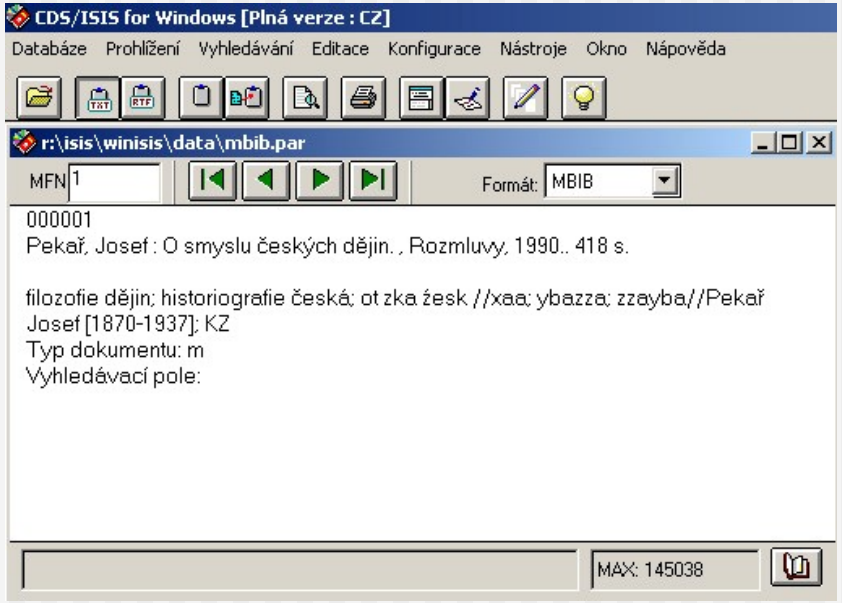
- the conversion has not led to any data loss

ISISMARC a CDS/ISIS for Windows

ISISMARC – data entry



CDS/ISIS for Windows - data search



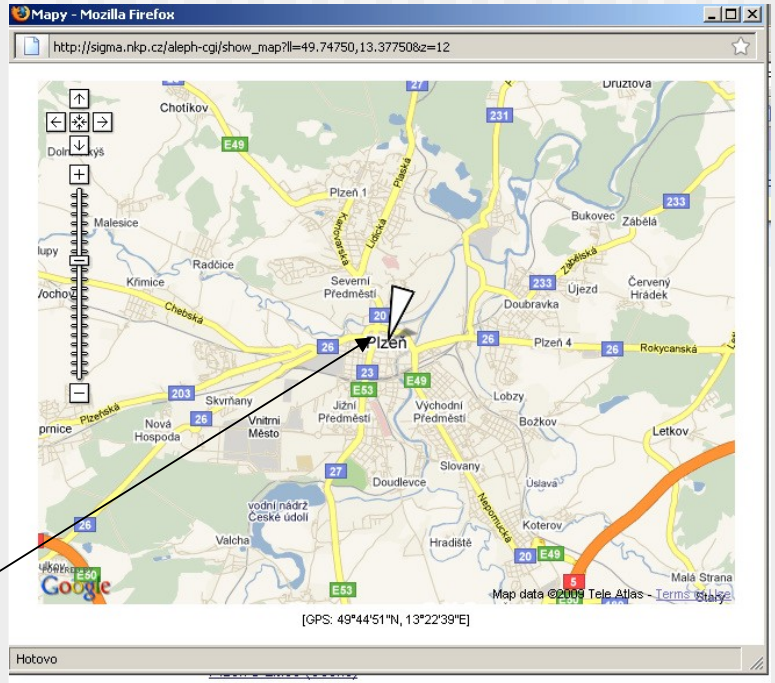
Czech National Authority Database

AUT - Full View of Record

Choose format: Standard -- MARC

Record 380 out of 600

Control no.	ge130439
Heading	Plzeň (Česko)
Geogr. area code	e-xr--- | e-xr-pl
Seen from	Pilsen (Česko)
	Pilzno (Česko)
Narrower term	Plzeň 1 (Česko)
	Plzeň 10-Lhota (Česko)
	Plzeň 2-Slovany (Česko)
	Plzeň 3 (Česko)
	Plzeň 4 (Česko)
	Plzeň 5-Křimice (Česko)
	Plzeň 6-Litice (Česko)
	Plzeň 7-Radčice (Česko)
	Plzeň 8-Černice (Česko)
	Plzeň 9-Malesice (Česko)
Related term	Kilometrovka (Plzeň, Česko : přírodní památka)
	Košutecké jezírko (Plzeň, Česko)
	Plzeň-město (Česko : okres)
	Plzeň-oblast (Česko)
	Plzeň, obléhání, 1618
UDC	(437.317)
English	**Plzeň** (Czech Republic)
GPS	49°44'51"N, 13°22'39"E Display map
Public gen. note	Krajské a okresní město.
Status	správní celek
Source	Statistický lexikon obcí ČR 2005
	www(Adresy ČR-MVČR)
System no.	000130439



Plzeň 7-Radčice (Česko)
Plzeň 8-Černice (Česko)
Plzeň 9-Malesice (Česko)
Related term Kilometrovka (Plzeň, Česko : přírodní památka)
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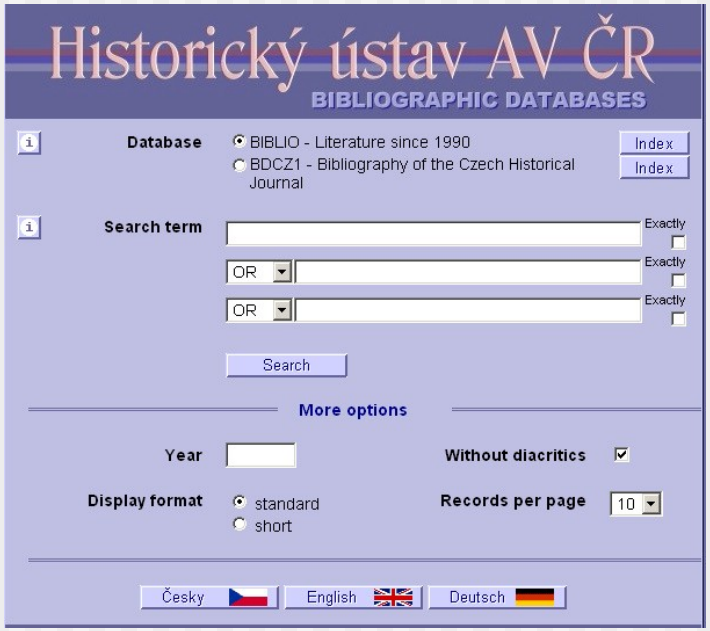
Association of the Libraries of the Czech Republic

What makes the Bibliography of the History of the Czech Lands unique ?

- we cannot manage with generation of some kind of imitation of a library catalogue of the same contents and formal format

- it is important to know the requirements and needs of the community of researchers



What do we already know about the relation of the existing and future historians towards our database?

- today's usage of internet in the research and expert work is commonplace

- careful selection of information sources

- sources must be trustworthy and verified

Archiving of bibliographic database

National historical bibliography:

- should serve to future historians
- should help to preserve continuity in the discipline
- should become a source for the processing of the history of historiography

BUT

Backing up is not the same as archiving:

- an extinction or even a reform of the institution could easily cause disappearance of the whole database of the Bibliography of the History of the Czech Lands

What makes the contents of the database of the Bibliography of the History of the Czech Lands important for the community of historians?
What makes the database unique and irreplaceable?

- minor articles, research reports, reviews and news about literature , apparent „miscellanea“

- selected regional literature, mainly of the periodicals published by archives and museums

- bibliographies of the related scientific disciplines (auxiliary historical sciences, history of fine arts, ethnology…)

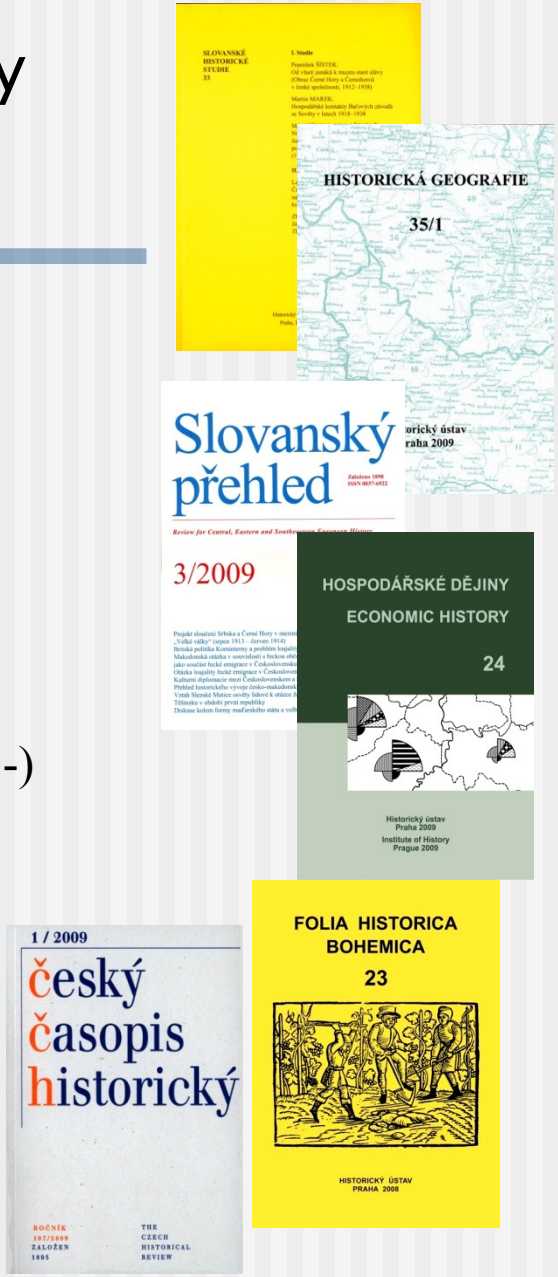
- speed of provision of information

Retrospective historical bibliography

Completion of gaps in the continuous series of printed bibliographies by processing the most important Czech scientific magazines published after 1945

Finished:

- 🕮 Český časopis historický/Czech Historical Review(1895-)
- 🕮 Slovanský přehled/Slavic Review (1946-)
- 🕮 Slovanské historické studie/Slavic Historical Studies (1955-)
- 🕮 Historická geografie/Historical Geography (1968-)
- 🕮 Hospodářské dějiny/Economic History (1978-)
- 🕮 Folia Historica Bohemica (1979-)



Enrichment of bibliographic records

- book covers
- contents
- full texts
- informations on Google

Our uniqueness reposes in our knowledge of the Czech community of historians and their needs

In future, we shall concentrate on development of our work that would enable us to take advantage of this knowledge and experience and of the background offered by the specialized library of the Institute of History.

For example:

- database of the personalities of the Czech historical science
- up-to-date information of the scientific life in regions
- reviews, news, discussions

Bibliography as „compass in the sea of books...“ (Johannes Amos Comenius)

We have not other choice but to hope that the results of our work, as imperfect as they are, have such importance for the Czech community of historians, that they will find space for future of this project even in the complicated times of reforms of the Czech science.

Thank You for attention

Václava Horčáková

Kristina Rexová

HISTORICKÝ ÚSTAV AV ČR, v. v. i.

INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AS CR, v. v. i.