

## Summary

The aim of the work is to present contemporary librarianship and information activities in Germany in the context of the organisation of a library system based on decentralised library and information centres network and their impact on the development of society and economy. The efforts of the institutions are often supported by library and information associations that coordinate activities or finance some of them. Thereby multiply of the initiatives and solutions are created that fulfil users' requirements and promote society development. IT/information technologies and digitalisation are usually used, what enables new opportunities, impacts on the variety of activities taken in the institutions.

The thesis consists of 5 chapters presenting the correlation of individual institutions, organizations and initiatives in the organisation of information infrastructure in Germany.

Chapter 1 covers the legal regulations for libraries. Their activities are not standardized for the whole country, only the basic points have been included in the Basic Law of Germany (*Grundgesetz der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*). Library regulations in 5 federal states (Thuringia, Saxony-Anhalt, Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein) that have decided to regulate librarianship with normative acts are analysed. Attention is also paid to the proposed by the association *der Deutsche Bibliotheksverband e.V. (dbv)* draft of library act that has been prepared on the basis of a law issued in 2008 in Thuringia. The forms of financing libraries in Germany are also mentioned. Public, church and private founders are described.

Chapter 2 is devoted to libraries and information centres in Germany. The typology of institutions is presented and their types are characterized: libraries of national importance, including the national library (*die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek*), state libraries (*die Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - Preußischer Kulturbesitz, die Bayerische Staatsbibliothek*) and central subject libraries, as well as regional libraries, including federal state institutions, academic, special and public libraries with their specific forms, e.g. institutions for the blind, patients, prisoners.

Chapter 3 presents the role of library and information associations in organising a network of German libraries based on the activities of institutions, such as *Bibliothek & Information Deutschland (BID)*, *der Deutsche Bibliotheksverband e.V. (dbv)*, *Berufsverband Information Bibliothek e.V. (BIB)*, *Verein Deutscher Bibliothekarinnen und Bibliothekare e. V. (VDB)*, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Informationswissenschaft und Informationspraxis e.V.*

(DGI) and partner associations *ekz.Bibliotheksservice GmbH*, *die Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)*, *die Bertelsmann Stiftung*, *Wissenschaftsrat* as well as *Goethe-Institut e.V.*, that unite library and information activities. Selected initiatives concerning the coordination of such library processes as collecting, cataloguing and sharing information are characterized. Examples include *Sammlung Deutscher Drucke*, *Sondersammelgebiete (SSG)*, virtual libraries, *Karlsruher Virtuelle Katalog (KVK)*, *Vascoda*, *Webis*, journal databases or the national digital library, *Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek* are described.

Information science in Germany becomes the subject of chapter 4. Government and non-governmental programmes supporting information infrastructure in the country are discussed. The *IuD-Programm* and the subject information centres that have been organised within it are characterized on the example of *FIZ Karlsruhe*. The activities of *Rat für Informationsinfrastrukturen*, the organ monitoring the information network in the country, are listed. Selected information initiatives such as *DINI - Deutsche Initiative für Netzwerkinformation e.V.* and *Fachinformationsdienste für Wissenschaft*, i.e. service of subject information for science are presented.

In the last, 5th chapter, the 4-level division of education in Germany is characterized and studies and specializations offered at universities and colleges in this country are discussed.