

LIBRARY OF THE ASCR, v. v. i.

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The Library was established within the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1953. It took over the historical collections of the Royal Czech Society of Sciences (founded in 1784), the Czech Academy of Sciences and the Arts (founded in 1890) and the Masaryk Academy of Labour (founded in 1920), which formed the basis for its future collections. It is the third oldest Czech scientific library. Pursuant to Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Library became a public research institution (acronym "v. v. i.") as of 1 January 2007.

The work of the Library consists in acquiring and processing scientific information resources and making them accessible to the scientific and academic community. The Library provides search services from Czech and foreign information sources and ensures the preservation and conservation of books from its historical collections. Research activities and scientific work are concentrated on the history of early printed books, printing and libraries in the Czech Lands, heuristics for national bibliography of foreign-language bohemia from 1501 to 1800 and development of automated library information systems and digital library systems.

The Library publishes the periodical *Knihy a dějiny* (Books and History) and the newsletter *Informace* (Information).

More detailed information about the organisational structure of the Institute and its research and specialised units can be found at the following URL:
<http://www.knav.cz>