

***Documentary Centres in Slovak Museums,
Between Archives, Libraries and Collections:
A View from a Practice and Legislation Perspective***



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European Registrars Conference 2018, 17 – 19 November, London

History of Slovak Museology

Bratislava City Museum, the first museum to be open continuously without any interruption in Slovakia

1868

Slovak National Museum

1893

Slovak National Gallery

1948

East Slovak Gallery, the first regional gallery in Slovakia

1951

The first law on museums and galleries

1961

The latest law was passed in 2009 and amended in 2015.

2009/2015



Origin

. exhibition and research plan

. authentic material

. outputs from other professional activities

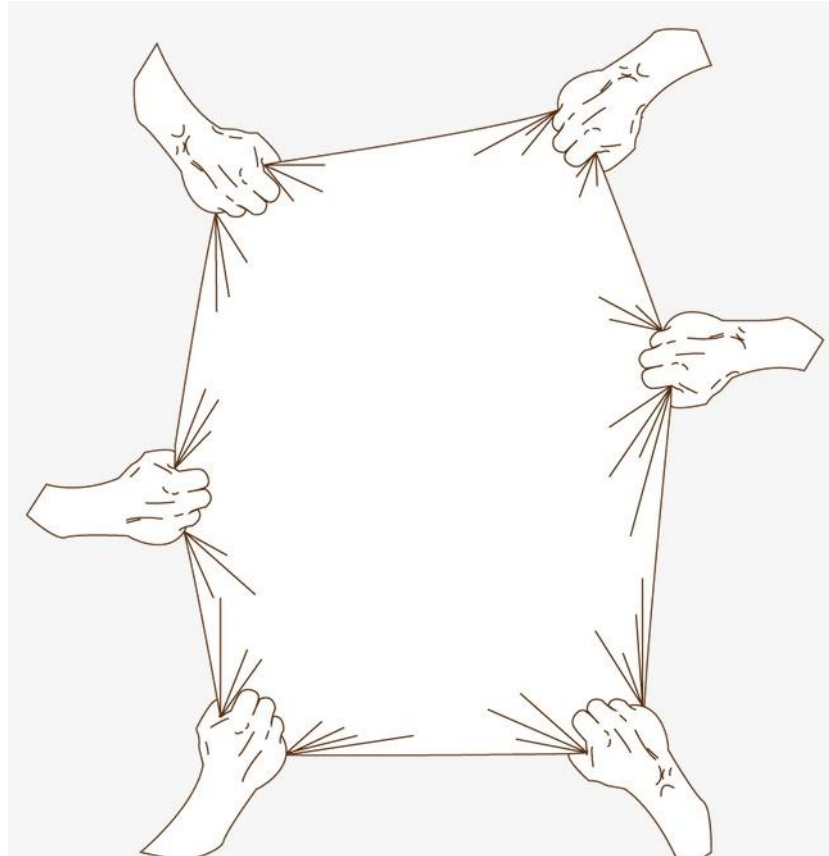


Exhibition catalogue, Exiled, 2017/2018, East Slovak Gallery

Preservation

Departments

Museum
Archive



Archival
registry

Library

Registrar

Terminology

document
phenomena



preserve
informations

map realities
and regions

Main characteristic

It is linked to the **museum's collections** and contributes to its **culture value**.

It forms part of the **museum's knowledge system** as a professional **information database** of the museum's specialization and orientation.



Documentation Centre, East Slovak Gallery, Photo Exhibition Collection, 1952 – 1985

Slovak legislation on museums

Act No. 206/2009 Coll., Decree No. 523/2009 Coll., Decree of the Ministry of Culture of the SR of 10.8.2015

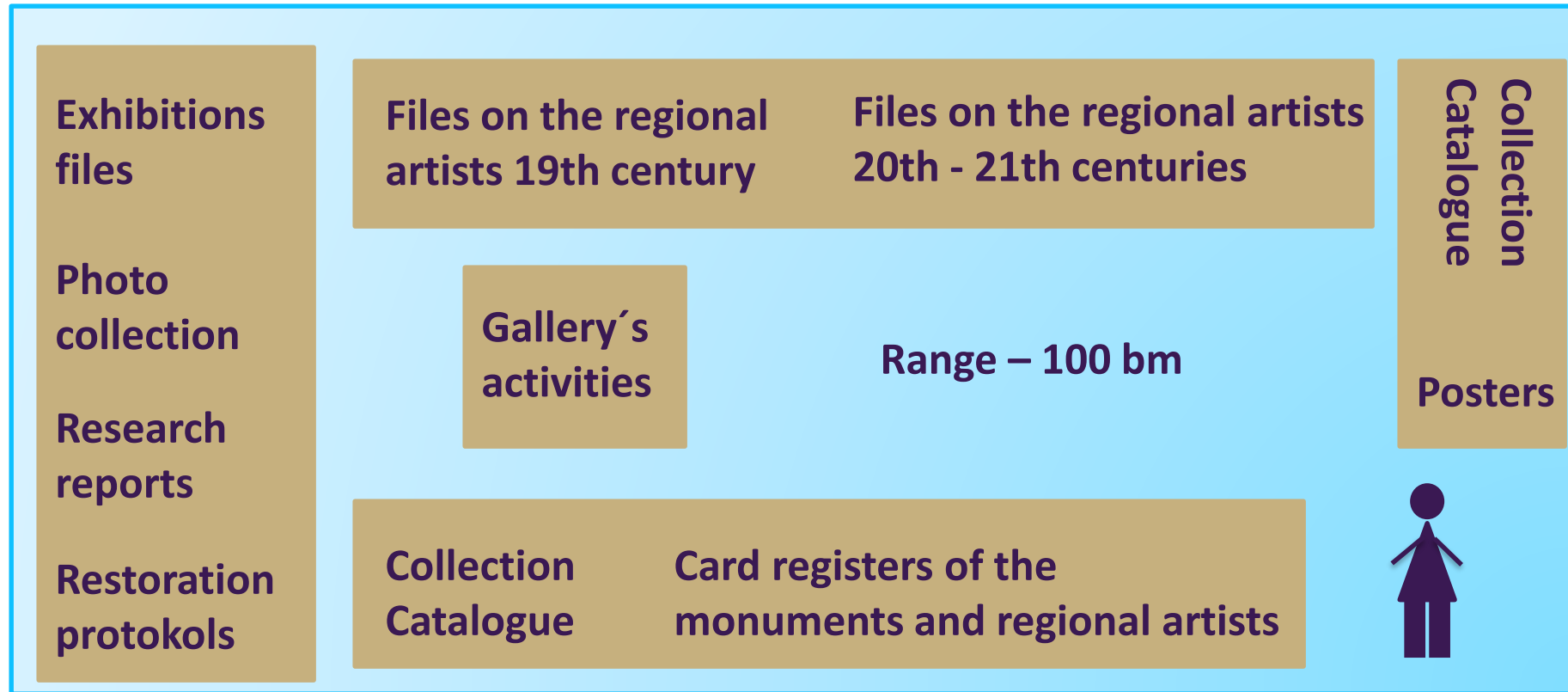
The Act No. 206/2009 Coll., §2, par. 7:

"The knowledge system of a museum or gallery's is a system governing the collection, provision and making use of knowledge and knowledge gained by professional management and scientific research of collection objects. The museum's knowledge system or the gallery's knowledge system consists of collections and information about collections as an integral part of basic professional activities".

Research activity of the East Slovak Gallery



Documentation Centre of the East Slovak Gallery



Statement of the State Archive of Košice

- . Documentation Center as subject of the control and pre-archival care of the State Archive

- . obligation to deport documents or to transfer them to the State archive

.....

- . Documentation Centre will become part of the gallery's registry

- . Gallery would set up its own archive

Slovak legislation on archives and registers

Act No. 395/2015 Coll., Decree No. 628/2002 Coll.

Decree No. 628/2002 Coll., § 3, par. 2:

"In particular, the registry entry has permanent documentary value if it contains

*(a) information **about the origin** of the registrant, its **organizational changes and the termination,***

*(b) information on **the activities of the registrant, its human resources, property and financial circumstances, in particular the annual report and analysis of the business,... "***

Criteria for managing the Documentation Centre

- . to have the documentation material **permanently stored in the museum,**
- . in the case of the **museum's closure,** to ensure it will be **deposited together with the collections** as an integral part of the museum's knowledge system,
- . to **respect it as part of the museum's professional activities,** with which it functionally and personally creates one unit and is interconnected as a whole to the collections,
- . to respect the **museum's competence** in processing the output of its own research work as its own intellectual property.



On 25 September 2017, we sent this material to the State Archive (18 boxes, 1,8bm) for permanent archiving.

Still running survey of the situation and the current standpoint

- . defined as documentation material
- . the most effective management in the form of a documentation fund
- . a separate place in the structure of the museum
- . defined by an internal directive



Documentation Centre, East Slovak Gallery, work in exhibition

Next steps

- . a professional seminar
- . the basis for developing a uniform methodology and proposals to amend the Museum Act
- . methodological guidelines
- . museum archives



Documentation Centre, East Slovak Gallery, File on the artists of the 20th century

UNESCO Document – Recommendations concerning the Protection and Promotion, 2015

II. 9: „Only knowledge gained through research will allow the museums **to fill their potential and offer it to the public. Research is extremely important for museums, also because it **allows them to look at the history in the contemporary context, to interpret, represent and exhibit the collections.**”**



Documentation Centre, East Slovak Gallery, File on the artists of the 21th century, artist's talk

Research?

Education!

Digitization!



Audience!

Thanks for your attention!

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