

AFTERWORD

Thanks to the initiative of the Council of Socialist Culture and Education and of the Danube Delta Museum a Colloquium dedicated to the improvement of the information system of the National Cultural Patrimony was held in Tulcea in October 1977. This subject has also been considered at a round table by a very large number of participants including managers, museologists, economists, mathematicians, informatics system specialists, various researchers, university professors and students. The conference acquired a character of novelty due to this large participation and a multidisciplinary approach of the subject was thus being possible. It was for the first time in this country that such a large range retrieval of information of the National Cultural Patrimony was systematically discussed as well as the possibilities of organizing the activity within a National Cultural Patrimony County Office. There also have been recorded the different stages of development of the information systems' organisation in the past three years since Law no. 63/1974 concerning the safeguarding of the National Cultural Patrimony has come into effect.

The reports of this conference have dealt first and foremost with the organisation stages of the National Cultural Patrimony so far (authors, A. Paleolog and I. Oprea) as well as with the prospects offered by the automation of the storage and retrieval system of the National Cultural Patrimony (N. Badea).

The acquired experience of the State Archives concerning the storage and retrieval systems in archive documents was presented in detail by the representatives of this institution invited at the Colloquium M. Pirvulescu and M. Klaus. Some other methods successfully experimented have also been dealt with, such as ; coordinate indexing at the library of the Fine Arts Institute of Bucharest (C. Mucenic), the semiotic analysis of art masterpieces (T. Redlov), the classification and cataloguing of museum collections (I. Godea), the systemic analysis aiming at safeguarding cultural objects (A. Moldoveanu). These methods represent as many possibilities of improving the information system.

The second day of the Colloquium was dedicated to the discussion of the problems regarding the organization of the registration activity of the cultural objects within a National Cultural Patrimony County Office and some problems related to the working out of listings of terms, i.e. of an authorized "thesaurus" to be used in the information storage and retrieval systems.

The archaeologist I. Paul from the Brukenthal Museum of Sibiu, the biologist M. Mihalciuc from the Natural Sciences Museum of Focșani and A. Lelutiu a chemistry engineer from the Central Military Museum have presented the results of the utilisation of the edge-punched cards system, a method of sorting and manipulation of small quantities of data. Reports abounding in valuable proposals and suggestions concerning the improvement of the systems of storage and retrieval in archaeology were presented by C. Bloșiu (Iași), I. Oberländer-Târnoveanu (Tulcea), P. Sadurschi (Botoșani), B. Filipescu (Ilfov), A. Aricescu (Bucharest). R. Ocheșeanu put forward the problem of the way to organize a numismatic cabinet at the Academy Library.

S. Diaconescu (Bucharest), N. Vrapciu (Buzău), D. Secară (Timișoara), and G. Nițulescu (Tîrgoviște) discussed problems bearing on the organization activity in areas related to the registration of the cultural objects within the National Cultural Patrimony County Offices. The registration and organization of the antique and rare book funds was the subjects of the reports of M. Schatz (Bucharest) and C. Ionescu (Tîrgoviște).

The biologists A. Z. Lehrer (Iași) and L. Artin (Bucharest) made very interesting proposals concerning the application of some methods of registration in the field of natural sciences, especially in biology and paleontology.

Several interesting proposals concerning the experience in the organisation of an iconic library at the Fine Arts Institute were presented by L. Mîrșanu (Bucharest). G. Ionescu (Ploiești) presented proposals bearing on the methods of registration of museum and art collections in Ploiești. E. Enache (Bucharest) examined the importance of the registration activity of the film production and of the film archives.

With a view to putting it into practice R. Bagdasar (Bucharest) proposed the utilization of hologram as a solution for storage of visual data and information concerning the cultural objects.

Among the most debated problems at the Tulcea Colloquium were those related to the working out of a unified terminology for the registration of cultural objects. The working out of thesauri of descriptors to be used in automatic data processing of cultural objects represents a basic problem for all those involved in the setting up of a cultural patrimony data bank.

J. Negoită (Bucharest), A. Bîrcă (Bucharest), G. Dinuță (Ilfov), S. Pîriu and P. Zaharia (Tulcea), V. Arbore and J. Pavel (Focșani), examined thus the questions of a unified terminology for ethnography. Concerning the same problem we may also mention the reports of C. Mirescu (Bucharest) and C. Bucur (Sibiu) who underlined the importance of the correlation between classification and the unified terminology.

In the area of art history M. Mocanu (Bucharest), L. Ene (Argeş), I. Buta (Vâlcea), and V. Stoichiţă (Bucharest) examined the difficult problem of the unified terminology of a thesaurus of descriptors concerning Romanian medieval iconography. A. Buzilă (Timişoara) undertook a systematic analysis of the baroque architecture in Banat and underlined the necessity of working out a thesaurus of architecture descriptors.

G. Iuga (Baia Mare) examined the original aspects of the history of mining in Transylvania and proposed the elaboration of a polyglot dictionary for the mining tools.

The report of M. Mathe-Kiss (Constanţa) undertook an original systemic analysis of the funeral monuments erected in Dobrogea. Another aspect of the question was the terminology utilised in the activity of safeguarding and restoration of the cultural objects (C. Manea — Bucharest).

The archeologists Şt. Cucu (Constanţa), R. Maxim (Vaslui) and E. Emandi (Suceava) maintained the necessity of a unified terminology for the description of archeological objects and for their classification.

The discussions following the above mentioned reports highlighted the usefulness of the Tulcea Colloquium and the high quality of the reports. In the end, the discussions at a roundtable underlined the present interest of improving the information system of the National Cultural Patrimony, a question involving responsibility for all those participating in the research activity in the safeguarding and turning to good account of our national cultural values.

Expressing the desiderata of the Romanian Communist Party documents as well as the existing law concerning the safeguarding of the national cultural patrimony, the Tulcea Colloquium organized under the patronage of the Council of Socialist Culture and Education and of the County Committee for Socialist Culture and Education in Tulcea represented an important event for all those involved in the organization of the information activity of the National Cultural Patrimony.

The Colloquium enabled each participant to present the results of the last three years bearing on the improving of the storage and retrieval system in the museums and National Cultural Patrimony County Offices network.

Tulcea Colloquium gained importance due to the participation of outstanding personalities in the field of science, culture and art and became a reference point for all subsequent actions and decisions bearing on the improvement of the evidence system of the National Cultural Patrimony.

The present volume published through the good offices of the Danube Delta Museum aims at providing the most important reports and speeches at the Tulcea Colloquium to all those interested in this subjects, offering them the possibility to become acquainted with the most fertile ideas expressed here.