



STAATSBIBLIOTHEK ZU BERLIN  
PREUSSISCHER KULTURBESITZ



# Osteuropa- Abteilung

Eastern Europe  
Department



## Services

The Eastern Europe Department acquires literature from Albania, Bulgaria, Finland, Greece, Georgia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, the Baltic states Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Hungary and Sorbian-language regions. The collection also reflects national minorities in all these regions. Works are acquired in their original language; the collection also includes literature on these countries in 'Western' languages. The main emphasis of the collection is the humanities and social sciences. Stocks at the Potsdamer Straße site comprise around 550,000 items, the combined stocks of both sites total some one million items. Ten thousand books are added annually to the inventory, which includes some 4,000 current periodicals. There are 30,000 volumes in the Eastern Europe Reading Room: national bibliographies, specialised bibliographies, encyclopaedia, lexicons, dictionaries and reference books from and about Eastern Europe. A file containing an overview of the department's classification system is available in the reading room. Users will soon be able to research the reading room's classification system online via the StaBiKat. The reading room at the Unter den Linden site also contains numerous Eastern European reference books for use by library visitors. ■ The PC workstations in the Eastern Europe Reading Room can be used for research into CD-ROM databases and the Internet; researchers can also access "Integrum World Wide", the largest online information service in Russia affording access to around 4,000 Russian databases (full-text and bibliographical data).



*Kroatisch-glagolitische Fibel, Rijeka 1995*  
*Croatian Glagolitic Primer, Rijeka 1995*

## Special Areas of Responsibility

The "Europäische Bibliographie zur Osteuropaforschung" (European Bibliography of Slavic and East European studies, Bibliographie européenne des travaux sur l'ex-URSS et l'Europe de l'Est) is a joint project involving documentation and research

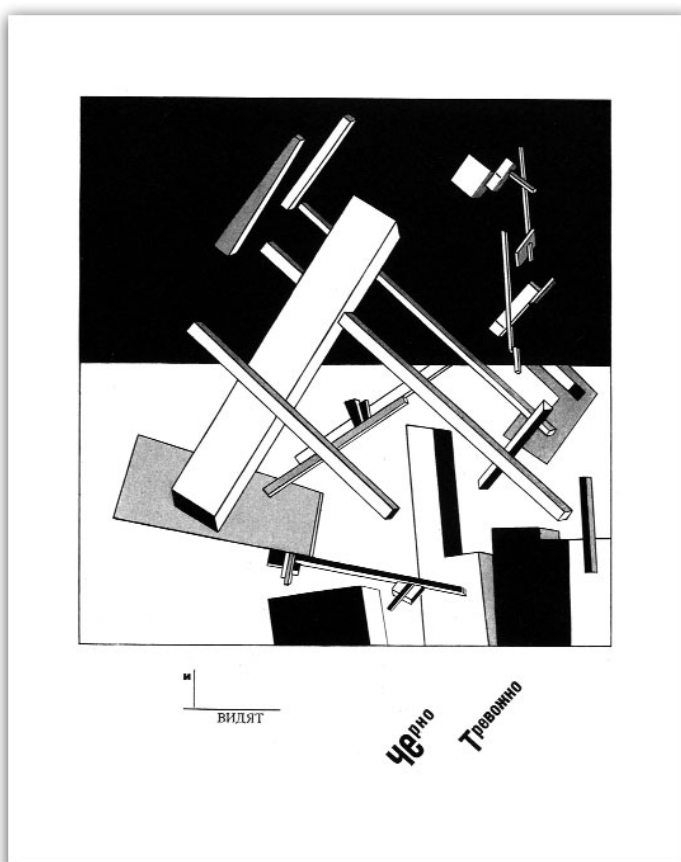
bodies in a number of European countries. The Eastern Europe Department is responsible for cataloguing German publications in the field of Slavic and East European studies. The department issues a series titled "Veröffentlichungen der Osteuropa-Abteilung" (Eastern Europe Department Publications). ■ The series' main focus is conference contributions from the Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Bibliotheken und Dokumentationsstellen der Ost-, Ostmittel-, und Südosteuropaforschung (Association of Libraries and Documentation Institutions for Eastern, Central Eastern and Southeastern European Studies, or ABDOS). ■ Since 2002, the specialist information service "New Contents Slavistics" can be accessed online via the "Online Contents" (OLC) database of the Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund (Common Library Network, or GBV) as part of the department's special collection focus "Slavic Languages and Literature".

## Catalogues

A large proportion of the holdings of both Staatsbibliothek sites (monographs and periodicals) can be accessed online via the "StaBiKat" (<http://stabikat.de>). Some of the pre-1945 inventory is listed in the Alphabetical Catalogue I, available on microfiche at both sites. This catalogue is currently undergoing electronic conversion. Most of the stocks acquired by the department up to and including 1984 are listed exclusively in the Osteuropa-Sammelkatalog (Eastern Europe General Catalogue, or OSK). Apart from the Staatsbibliothek holdings, the OSK also lists many Eastern European collections held at other libraries in Germany and abroad. Supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation), this catalogue has been developed into a specialised central database and now contains more than one million listings, most of them for valuable early stocks of Eastern European literature on the arts and humanities. The OSK is not available on microfilm and must therefore be viewed at the Eastern Europe Department at the Postdamer Straße site. Conversion of Staatsbibliothek stocks into the GBV is scheduled to begin by the end of 2003. Items acquired after 1984 are listed in the StaBiKat and have undergone complete subject indexing.

## Treasures

Highlights of the collection include Russian Church Slavonic printed books from the 16th–19th centuries, Russian fiction and poetry, and publications on literature, art and cultural history of the period 1913–1930, among them most of the Russian-language works published in Berlin during this time. The Manuscript Department holds what is probably the most valuable collection of early Serbian manuscripts in Germany – the Wuk Collection, named after the Serbian philologist Vuk Stefanović Karadžić (1787–1864). The estates of the Lithuanian politician and professor for evangelical theology at Kaunas University Vilius Gaigalaitis (1870–1945) and that of the Göttingen philologist Eduard Hermann (1863–1950) contain noteworthy works from the Baltic region. The Gaigalaitis estates has been returned to Vilnius, but is available to researchers in Berlin on microfilm.



*El Lissitzky, Von den zwei Quadraten (russ.), Berlin 1922*  
*El Lissitzky, "Tale of 2 Squares" (Russ.), Berlin 1922*

## History

The Eastern Europe Department was one of a number of new Staatsbibliothek sections founded after 1945. It was formally created in Marburg in 1950, to address a growing public need for information and to provide an adequate range of specialist literature to those working in the burgeoning field of Eastern European studies. ■ The Preußische Staatsbibliothek (Prussian State Library) already held considerable stocks of Eastern European literature, most of it in Slavic languages. In the 1950s, the West Berlin library systematically acquired early and modern literature from and about Eastern Europe, and succeeded in considerably augmenting its stocks. ■ In East Berlin, the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek's (German State Library's) collection of Eastern European literature is particularly impressive, due for the most part to its close ties with Eastern European countries. Volumes can now be borrowed from both Staatsbibliothek sites. ■ Since 1998, the Eastern Europe Department and the Department of Early Printed Books have been jointly responsible for the special collection focus "Slavic Languages and Literature (including Folklore)" – a project supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. For decades now, the department has also placed special emphasis on the acquisition of legal documents from and about Eastern Europe.



*Exlibris-Katalog zum Mažvydas-Jubiläum in Litauen, 1997*  
*Catalogue of Plates to mark the Mazvydas anniversary in Lithuania, 1997*



## Lesesaal/Reading Room

**Potsdamer Straße 33, 10785 Berlin** (Tiergarten)

2. Obergeschoss / **2nd floor**

- U- und S-Bahn Potsdamer Platz  
Bus 129, 148, 200 und 348
- Tel.: +49 (0)30 266-2877  
Fax: +49 (0)30 266-2404
- Osteuropa-Sammelkatalog / **Eastern Europe General Catalogue**  
Tel.: +49 (0)30 266-2877
- Montag bis Freitag 9-21 Uhr (Auskunft 9-17 Uhr)  
Samstag 9-19 (Auskunft 9-13 Uhr)  
**Monday to Friday, 9am-9pm (Information: 9am-5pm),**  
**Saturday 9am-7pm (Information: 9am-1pm)**
- **<http://osteuropa.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de>**