

**Slovene archives in transition from joint state of the Socialist  
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to independent state Republic of  
Slovenia:  
Reflections of the transition in Slovene archival theory and  
practice**  
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Beginnings of development of Slovene archives in the 19th century stem from activities of various institutions such as convents and landed estates, museum societies, city administration. During both wars Municipal archive of Ljubljana, regional archive in Maribor and a few archival departments comprised Slovene archives.

Setting up new social order in Yugoslavia in 1945 meant archival materials became public property. That same year the Central state archive of Slovenia (predecessor of The Archives of the Republic of Slovenia) was established, followed by special archives (agencies for internal affairs, national defence, scientific institutions specialized for history of workers' movement etc. were independent in their safekeeping of archival materials). After 1950, a network of regional archives such as exists still today developed. Between 1945 and 1986, 89 laws and regulations were issued regarding archival profession in Yugoslavia, of which 13 were issued by Slovenia.

The period around 1991 indicates considerable political, economic, and social changes in Slovene society, which had an impact on Slovene archival theory and practice. By abolishing social property, safeguarding privacy rights and personal rights, autonomy of universities and local administration, implementing market economy etc. archival legislation, which was no longer in accordance with the new constitution, had to be changed. One of the main changes after the independence was transfer of founder rights in founding of new archives to the state and executive rights to the Government of The Republic of Slovenia.

Another matter Slovenia had to deal with in regards to archives was succession issue of former SFR Yugoslavia. It took ten years for former Yugoslavian states to sign a succession agreement in 2001, which also includes an annex on archives. An implementation and execution of agreement provisions regarding archives seems however to be an even more laborious process.

Slovene archival profession developed a high tendency for Slovene archives to advance to the most developed archives, which can also be seen in relying on international archival standards when passing the new archival law in 1997.

Today Slovene archives (of which several are members of ICA) are well established in Central-European and European region, taking part in numerous international projects, and here the International Institute for Archival Science Maribor should be especially mentioned, in particular the international conferences organized by the institute since the 1990s. Slovene archives employ some 200 archival workers and Slovene archives are currently entrusted with safekeeping some 60.000 running meters of archival materials.

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