

National Library of Serbia, Belgrade
National and University Library "St. Kliment Ohridski", Skopje
Central National Library of Montenegro "Djurdje Crnojevic", Cetinje
St.St. Cyril and Methodius National Library, Sofia

17 May 2011

Republic of Slovenia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
Ministry of Culture

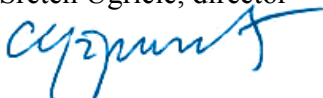
Dear Sirs/Madams,

We were informed that, after the submitted protest resignation due to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology's inadequate treatment of IZUM, the Management Board of IZUM had dismissed, with the Government of the Republic of Slovenia's consent, on May 3, Tomaž Seljak M.Sc, from the position of director of IZUM, while on the same day the other members of the management of IZUM submitted their resignations, too. Knowing the complexity of the functions performed by IZUM in the COBISS.Net network in accordance with the agreements on implementation of the COBISS system in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro and Bulgaria, we cannot believe that something like that can happen in the state institution upon which the functioning and further development of the national library information systems of six states depends. We express our concern since the foundation of our previous relations with IZUM was our trust in the management of IZUM, which now suddenly remains without its key persons. Being aware of the consequences of that fact, we appeal to all those that contributed to the present situation to reinvestigate their decisions and create conditions for the further realization of the aims of the COBISS.Net project. We are convinced that this is not possible without the experience and confidence that Tomaž Seljak M.Sc. has at international level. One should enable Tomaž Seljak M.Sc. to finish, together with his expert team, on the basis of their mutual vision, the last phase of the setting of the COBISS.Net system on the firm ground, since only after that will the stability and further development of the system not be jeopardized.


We would take this opportunity to point out that by the end of last year we gladly received the news that, on the UNESCO's initiative, one started the procedure of IZUM getting the status of UNESCO's regional centre for library information systems and current research information systems. In that case, we expect that, apart from the UNESCO's representative, our representative, too, gets his place in the IZUM Management Board.

Yours truly,

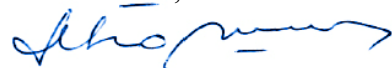
Sreten Ugričić, director



Jelena Đurović, director



Mile Bošeski, director



Boryana Hristova Ph.D, director



Delivered to: the embassies of the Republic of Slovenia in Belgrade, Skopje, Podgorica and Budapest.