

## NEWSPAPER PRESERVATION

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### *In This Issue*

This issue of *FOCUS* provides various takes on a form of historical evidence of central interest to CRL and its community: the newspaper. Since CRL's founding in 1949, we have built an immense shared collection of U.S. and foreign newspapers, now numbering over 16,000 titles. The CRL newspaper collections supplement the holdings of major national libraries like the Library of Congress and the British Library.

In this issue, Jon Giullian, Librarian for Slavic and Eurasian Studies at the University of Kansas, announces a collection of World War II-era Cossack newspaper titles newly available in microform from CRL. The collection documents the growing Cossack nationalist movement during a particularly volatile period in modern history. We also report on CRL's acquisition of the major twentieth-century Israeli daily newspaper, *Haaretz*, in microform.

An update on the World Newspaper Archive describes how new titles are being digitized for this major collection of international newspapers, and the directions set by the WNA advisory committee for the further development of this collection.

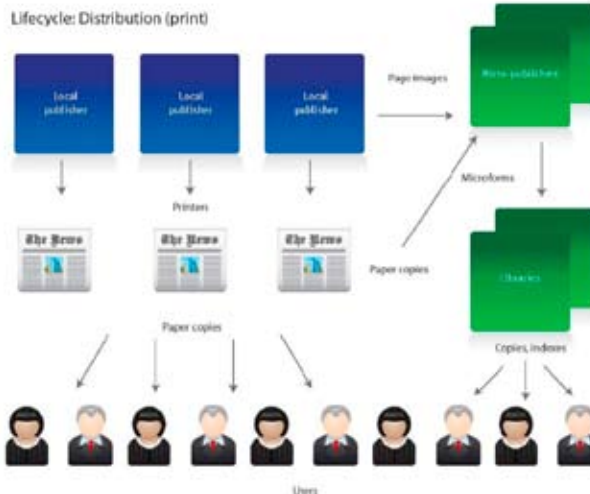
Scholars and librarians wondering about the future of newspaper preservation may find useful a recent analysis of electronic news production and distribution, undertaken by CRL for the Library of Congress Office of Strategic Initiatives. The report identifies some of the challenges libraries face in ensuring scholarly access to the "first rough draft of history."

—Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.  
President

*Times of India* jobbing composing room,  
November 1898. © British Library Board  
(Photo 643/[15])

# CRL Preservation Analysis of Electronic News

**Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.**  
President  
Center for Research Libraries



Flow chart from the new CRL report, *Preserving News in the Digital Environment: Mapping the Newspaper Industry in Transition*, depicting "Lifecycle: Distribution (print)".

During the print era, research libraries have played an important role in preserving newspapers for scholarly research. Throughout its 60-plus year history CRL has focused many of its collecting and reformatting efforts on preserving published news for North American historians and scholars. Today, the combined CRL and the Library of Congress holdings of U.S. and foreign newspapers, in fact, represent the world's largest aggregation of news reporting.

With the recent ascent of digital media as the locus of news publishing and distribution, newspaper publishers are reorienting their production and distribution methods from paper and printing to digital environments and platforms. Because the longstanding approach to news preservation is built around the print formats, these changes in the news industry present formidable preservation challenges. With these changes, traditional preservation models will unfortunately no longer ensure future access to a comprehensive journalistic record. Library action to prevent loss of this important class of historical evidence will have to be built around how news appearing in traditional and various digital platforms is sourced and reported, edited and processed, and distributed in various forms. Effective strategies for preserving news in the electronic environment must be based on an understanding of the "lifecycle" of news content.

A new CRL report, *Preserving News in the Digital Environment: Mapping the Newspaper Industry in Transition*, produced for the Library of Congress Office of Strategic Initiatives, describes this lifecycle in detail. It examines news articles, advertising, sports and financial data, opinion columns, and other types of content published in newspapers and online, providing an overview of the workflows and systems involved in how they are sourced, edited and formatted, and distributed. The overview is intended to form the basis for developing rational and effective library strategies for preserving news in electronic formats.

The report identifies some of the limitations of recent approaches to preserving born-electronic news, such as web archiving and preservation of page-image files. These approaches do not go far enough to preserve the daily news reporting and other content issued by the major publishers, nor do they adequately preserve characteristics of news distributed through the web and other digital platforms that are important parts of the historical record. The report also suggests that a viable approach to preserving electronic news will have to involve cooperation between libraries and newspaper producers, publishers, and/or aggregators. With the convergence of the "vertical" media (see [David Pogue's January 2, 2011 NY Times column](#)), for example, libraries might consider organizing their collecting and preservation efforts

around some of the major media organizations, such as *The New York Times*, Associated Press, and News Corporation.

CRL will continue to expand the report and to support its constituent libraries' development of appropriate preservation and collection strategies. This will be necessary to ensure that researchers continue to have access to what has been called "the first rough draft of history." CRL's [July 13 webinar on news preservation](#) will also suggest some viable library strategies for ensuring future access to news in electronic form. ❖

*Contributors to the CRL report were:*

*Jessica Alverson*

*Kalev Leetaru*

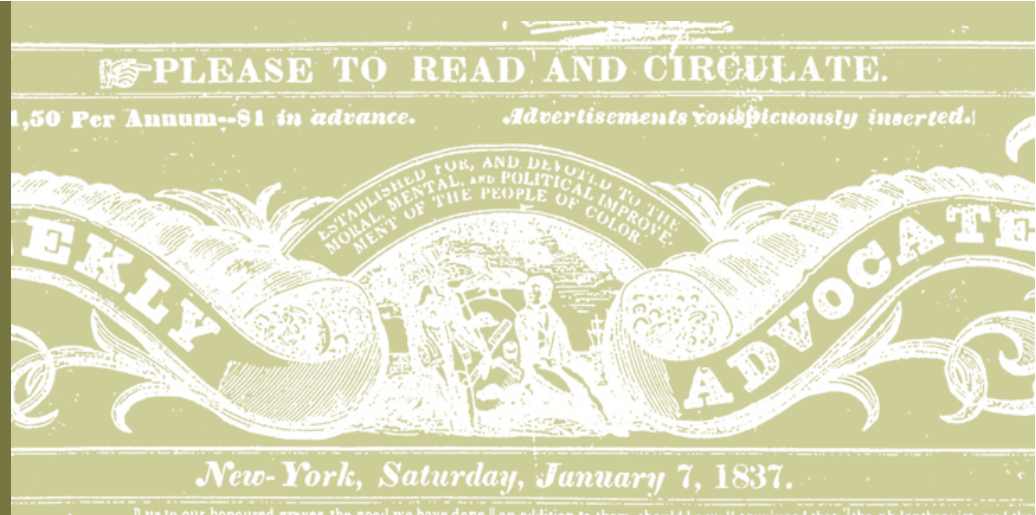
*Victoria McCargar*

*Kayla Ondracek*

*James Simon*

*Bernard Reilly*

## New Global Newspaper Preservation Directory



An 1837 edition of the African American newspaper *The Weekly Advocate*. From CRL collections.

A new Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership grant will enable the Center for Research Libraries to gather and disseminate information about U.S. and foreign newspapers that are preserved in print, microform, and digital formats.

Many research libraries are moving rapidly from building and maintaining newspaper collections in print and microform in favor of providing electronic access to titles through vendors. Hard copy newspapers are being preserved only by CRL and a relative handful of major research libraries, such as the Library of Congress, New York Public Library, Harvard, and others. IMLS recently awarded funding for a two-year CRL project to create a single database of information about the holdings of these newspaper collections of record, and to expose metadata on historic newspapers and their digital versions included in major open access and commercial databases and digital repositories.

The project will build upon the work of the International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON) preservation database, which aggregates information about non-U.S. newspapers held in microform and paper formats by certain major libraries. The project will enable CRL to expand that information to register holdings of U.S. and foreign newspapers and to track digital copies as well. The ability to handle this kind of data will eventually be built into the [PAPR registry](#), now being developed to aggregate print archive holdings for serials by CRL in cooperation with the California Digital Library.

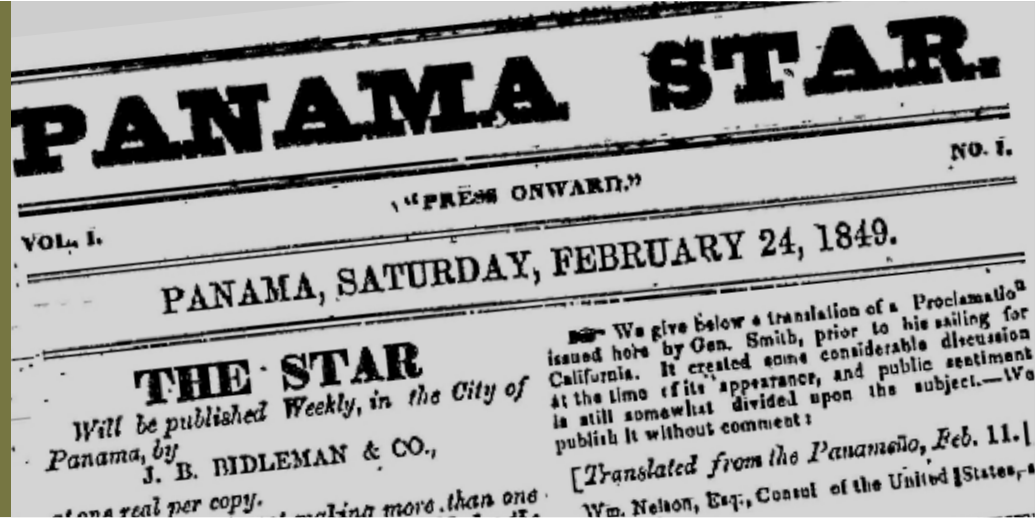
Work on the project is currently underway with significant in-kind support from CRL and the American Antiquarian Society. ❖

*For more information, contact Amy Wood, Director of Technical Services, 773-955-4545 ext. 327; [awood@crl.edu](mailto:awood@crl.edu).*

## World Newspaper Archive Update 2011

James Simon

Director of International Resources  
Center for Research Libraries



*Panama Star*, February 24, 1849. From the World Newspaper Archive—Latin American Newspapers. CRL collections.

As first reported in the [Winter 2008–09 issue](#) of *FOCUS on Global Resources*, the [World Newspaper Archive](#) is the product of a collaborative initiative of CRL libraries and [Readex](#), a division of NewsBank, to preserve and provide persistent access to historical newspapers from around the globe. The program launched in 2008 with the financial and in-kind support of CRL's member institutions. The WNA has proven to be a widely popular measure, with 93 participating institutions investing more than \$1.1 million in the conversion and long-term sustainability of international news resources.

### Progress to Date

The World Newspaper Archive (WNA) currently provides online access to more than 250,000 issues, with 1.975 million pages of content selected by CRL and its member libraries. Three content modules are currently available to participating institutions:

- **Latin American Newspapers (LAN)** was launched in December 2008 and is nearing completion of 34 long-running titles. The module contains 163,200 issues and nearly 1.2 million pages.
- **African Newspapers (AFN)**, launched in January 2010, is also nearing completion. As of June 2011, the project has digitized 56 of the projected 74 titles (54,000 issues and 393,744 of the projected 415,000 pages). The Cooperative Africana Materials Project (CAMP) has reported strong interest in continuing with digitization of African titles.
- **South Asian Newspapers (SAN)**, launched in June 2010, has completed production on English language content for the module. This component currently contains nine titles (33,000 issues, and 399,500 of the projected 450,000 pages). Additional vernacular-language titles are on hold, pending the investigation of available technology for optical character recognition (OCR). The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year.

Two additional modules are currently in development:

- Production on the **East European Newspapers** module has been halted due to technical issues with OCR and searching of Russian-language titles. CRL and its selectors for this module are exploring addition of alternate titles from Eastern Europe (in Roman characters). Readex is putting into place the technology necessary for cross-language searchability, and production is scheduled to resume in early 2012.



Masthead of *Diario de la Marina*, October 1, 1900. From the Digital Library of the Caribbean.

- In May 2011 the WNA Advisory approved the development of a second module for **Latin American Newspapers**. This will be a significant addition to the content accessible through LAN I, projected to extend another million pages (*see below*).

Members continue to receive preferential access to WNA modules through CRL. For information on how to purchase, contact [wna@crl.edu](mailto:wna@crl.edu).

## Content Highlights

The following descriptions of recently scanned titles from the three current modules highlight examples of the valuable resources now available for scholarly use.

### *Star & Herald* (Panama City, Panama) 1849–1914

*The Star & Herald* began as two separate papers: *The Panama Star*, founded by three American gold rushers in 1849, and the *Panama Herald*, begun in 1851 as a competitor to the *Star*. The merged paper—renamed the *Panama Star and Herald*—began printing a section in Spanish under the subheading “La Estrella de Panama,” containing unique national and international articles of interest to the local population.

The earliest issues of the *Star* and its successors provided advice to Americans traveling to Panama (“Surplus baggage will be an entanglement till it is lost, which fortunately generally happens before the owner reaches Panama.”<sup>1</sup>), warnings against fatigue and cholera, and harrowing tales of crossing the Isthmus in search of gold. The papers document the early tensions between the local populace and the ever-growing presence of America within Panama, culminating in the construction of the “transcontinental” railroad by the Panama Rail Road Co. (a U.S. company with exclusive rights for construction granted by the government of Colombia).

### *Nigerian Chronicle* (Lagos, Nigeria) 1908–15

The *Nigerian Chronicle* was among the first Nigerian-owned newspapers published in the wake of British consolidation of control in the region. Covering news affecting the “two Nigerias” (the southern and northern protectorates were unified in 1914), the *Chronicle* sought to provide both reporting of events and opinion alike; its analytical approach and editorial style were highly regarded. An antecedent of later nationalist papers of the 1920s and beyond, the *Nigerian Chronicle* was the first to use the term “Nigeria” in its name, anticipating the political changes of its day.

### *Tribune* (Lahore, Pakistan) 1881–1922

First published in 1881 in Lahore (then in the frontier province of Punjab under the British Raj), the *Tribune* quickly established itself as an organ of public opinion. Deliberately published in English (both due to vernacular press restrictions and a desire to reach a broader readership among the colonial presence), the paper took on the role of the voice of the public and pressed for rights of the native people. As such, it aligned itself with popular causes, such as the founding of the Indian National Congress (1885) and opposing the partition of Bengal (1905).

## Future Activity

The WNA continues as a sustainable program of the CRL membership. Member investment is provided directly to CRL and goes back into the program for additional conversion activity. Selection and the disposition of assets are controlled by the community, which also guarantees long-term access to the content through preservation of the digital and physical assets.

<sup>1</sup> *Panama Star*, 4 August 1849. Accessible through the World Newspaper Archive—Latin American Newspapers.

In FY2012, WNA will proceed with the aforementioned EEN and a second module for LAN. Title selection is underway, and CRL encourages members to suggest titles or source content.

The WNA advisory has recommended the following areas of emphasis:

- **Deep content:** In general, scholars have indicated a preference for long runs of significant papers of record.
- **Different perspectives:** The history of print news is rife with divergent opinions, from indigenous press to underground ephemera. In addition to mainstream media, scholars are finding fruit in the lesser-collected resources, often held in short and scattered holdings. Where possible, WNA will convert full runs of titles that represent a diversity of opinion from regions and specific countries.
- **Contemporary coverage:** More than any other request, CRL is asked for more current coverage of titles. WNA establishes its preliminary collections through digitization of material in the public domain (generally, up through 1922). However, many of the important titles continued well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century (some, prominently, still publishing today). In the coming modules, WNA will aggressively explore additional content that extends the coverage of these critical world regions, seeking permissions of publishers where appropriate.
- **Expanded areas:** As originally envisioned, WNA is a multiregional database, covering major regions such as the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and more. CRL and Readex are committed to extending the coverage of WNA as its constituencies govern. CRL welcomes feedback on regions and titles to pursue in the coming years. ❖

### *CRL Newspaper Licensing*

CRL and some of its Global Resources Network groups are participating in free trials and licensing access to select titles:

- CRL included offers for electronic resources on this year's Purchase Proposal ballot, in response to strong interest expressed by members last year. Fourteen libraries indicated that they wanted to participate in *Times of India Online*, and received favorable terms.
- Certain members of [GNARP](#) (the German-North American Resources Partnership) are currently participating in a free trial of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (F.A.Z.) through August 1, at which point they will be asked whether they would like to subscribe. First published on November 1, 1949, F.A.Z. is one of the major national daily newspapers in Germany, and covers a comprehensive range of topics in Germany and internationally. The four daily sections and inserts of the paper include economic, political, cultural, and science topics.

CRL will explore other offers and free trial access for additional titles.

## WWII Cossack Newspapers and Periodicals at CRL

Jon Giullian

Librarian for Slavic and Eurasian Studies  
University of Kansas



Masthead of *Kazak* newspaper, June 28, 1944. From CRL collections.

Caught between two tyrannical 20<sup>th</sup>-century powers, Russian Cossacks of various groups found themselves on opposite sides of World War II. CRL's Slavic and East European Microform Project recently coordinated the microfilming of a [small collection of Cossack newspapers](#) published during the 1940s. (A few single issues were also digitized and are now available in the [CRL catalog](#).) They provide valuable source material for the study of Cossack involvement (especially on the Nazi side) in World War II. These titles include:

- *Kazachiĭ vestnik: informatsiia Kazach'ego natsional'nogo osvoboditel'nogo dvizheniia* [Cossack National Liberation Movement] (Aug. 1941–Apr. 1945; Jun. 1951–Feb. 1958)
- *Kazach'ia lava: tsentral'naia obshchekazach'ia gazeta* (Apr. 16, 1944–Feb. 22, 1945)
- *Kazachiĭ klich: ezhenedel'naia gazeta 1-i Kazach'ei divizii* (Dec. 1943–Oct. 1944) *Kosakenruf* (Apr. 1944) German issues of *Kazachiĭ klich*
- *Kazachiĭ klinok* (Mar. 1943–Feb. 1944)
- *Kubanets* (Jun.–Sep. 1943)
- *Na kazach'em postu: dvukhnedel'nyi zhurnal dlia kazakov* (Apr. 1943–Jan. 1945)
- *Parizhskii viestnik* (Jan. 30–Feb. 27, 1943)

These newspapers record the pulse of various Cossack groups during this volatile time period. They breathe Cossack nationalism mixed with varying amounts of German military victories, Nazi propaganda, and anti-Bolshevik sentiment. *Kazachiĭ vestnik*, for example, the organ of the Cossack National Liberation Movement (*Kazach'e natsional'noe osvoboditel'noe dvizhenie*) and probably the most blatantly nationalistic paper in the collection, chronicles many of the party's public activities, meetings, resolutions, and other efforts to call their Cossack brothers to join the Nazis against a common enemy, the Bolsheviks.

While early issues bleed propaganda, as the tide of war turns against Germany in 1944–45, the “progress of the war” is replaced on the paper's pages with an abundance of columns exhibiting a calmer Cossack sentiment. These include a bibliography of Cossack works, historical calendar, and a column dedicated to missing persons. Letters and testimonials of Bolshevik/Soviet atrocities committed against Cossacks also continue to appear regularly, but not as aggressively as in the early years of the war. After the war, *Kazachiĭ vestnik* resumed publication in Munich in 1951. The focus on Cossack nationalism represents a new stage in the Cossacks' fight for freedom and political identity. Published in the West, the paper has one column in English.





Front-page cartoon from January 1, 1943 edition of *Kavkazskii vestnik*. From CRL collections.

The newspapers as a whole add to the textual and visual chronicle of Cossack involvement in World War II on the German side. *Kazachii klich* is especially rich in photographs, artistic decoration, and cartoons. Many of these papers also feature Cossack verse and song lyrics.

These fascinating titles are sure to draw interest among Slavists and Germanists alike. Microfilm copies of these newspapers are held by the Center for Research Libraries and the University of Kansas. ❖

### *New CRL Newspaper Acquisitions*

The Center for Research Libraries' newspaper collection contains more than 10,000 titles from most countries of the world and every state in the U.S., including over 1,800 U.S. ethnic titles and some of the earliest African American newspapers. CRL has recently added several valuable newspaper titles to this rich and varied collection, now available for scholar access:

- CRL obtained a set of *Xin Wen Bao* microfilm from the National Library of China through the 2011 Shared Purchase Program. Originally operated jointly by foreigners and local Chinese and published in Shanghai, *Xin Wen Bao* was once the most widely distributed newspaper in China. The set covers the late Qing and the entire Minguo Republic eras, and will make the current CRL holdings of the newspaper's back files complete.
- The 2011 Shared Purchase Program also helped CRL to purchase the *Lytelton Times*, one of the principal newspapers of New Zealand's Canterbury region for 80 years. It was published from 1851 until 1929, when it became the *Christchurch Times* until publication ceased in 1935. CRL already holds *LT* from 1902 to 1906 and has a very limited representation of other New Zealand mainstream papers.
- The *South Asian Microform Project* (SAMP) has extended its holdings of *Ceylon Times* by acquiring issues from 1924 to 1930. The original *Ceylon Times* was founded in 1846 and published until 1874. Restarted in 1882 by the publisher, the *Times of Ceylon* quickly regained its former prominence, read by British officials, planters, and merchants as well as the elite of Ceylon. It was a major vehicle for international, local, and business information for the nation of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). CRL and SAMP continue to acquire reels to complete this collection, which currently spans 1863–74, 1901–30, 1941–54, and 1967–75. CRL obtained the 1941–54 reels through the 2008 Shared Purchase Program, with assistance from the University of Chicago and Columbia University. SAMP hopes to acquire *Ceylon Times* issues from the 1930s as funding permits.
- The *Cooperative African Materials Project* (CAMP) microfilmed a set of Zimbabwean newspapers collected by the Library of Congress office in Nairobi, including *The Worker*, *Zimbabwe Standard*, *Business Tribune*, *City Observer*, and others. CAMP is also microfilming a set of newspapers from Cameroon and has finished 16 titles ranging from 1997 to 2007, including *Ouest Echos* (Sept. 1997–Dec. 2005).



## CRL Obtains Haaretz

Front page of *Haaretz*, on May 12, 1948, two days before Israel declared its independence. From CRL collections.

Through the 2011 Purchase Proposal Program, CRL has obtained microfilm of the newspaper *Haaretz* from Tel Aviv (1919–63). Since its establishment nearly a century ago, *Haaretz*, Israel's oldest daily and most widely read morning newspaper, has provided coverage of pre-1948 Palestine under Ottoman rule, the British Mandate, and later the emerging State of Israel, the Jewish world, as well as broader aspects of the Middle East. Most CRL member institutions who receive print editions do not archive it.

The paper was founded in 1919 in Jerusalem as *Hadashot Haaretz (News of the Land)*, by a group of Zionist immigrants, mainly from Russia. Among its staffers was the Revisionist leader, Ze'ev Jabotinsky. The writer Ahad Ha'am was a frequent contributor during the early years.

The newspaper subsequently shortened its title to *Haaretz (The Land)* and moved to Tel Aviv in 1922, where it remains to the present day. In 1935, the paper was bought by Salman Schocken, a businessman and prominent Zionist from Germany who had recently settled in Palestine. His son, Gershom, took over the editorship in 1939 and headed the paper until his death more than 50 years later, in 1990. Since then, Gershom Schocken's son, Amos, has served as publisher of *Haaretz*.

Although Israel has around 22 privately owned dailies, *Haaretz* is considered the most influential and respected for both its news coverage and its commentary. *Haaretz* describes itself as "an independent daily newspaper with a broadly liberal outlook both on domestic issues and on international affairs." Its journalistic staff includes 330 reporters, writers, and editors. The paper is famous for its editorial page, where senior columnists, including some of Israel's leading commentators and analysts, reflect on current events. It currently covers defense, diplomacy, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the peace process, Israeli politics, international affairs, and general Middle Eastern affairs. It uses a smaller typeface than other Israeli dailies so that it can fit twice the amount of material onto each page.

*Haaretz* has a typical circulation of 75,000 on weekdays and 95,000 on weekends. Most of its readers are regular subscribers; newsstand sales account for a relatively small proportion. The [current edition of Haaretz](#) is now available on the Internet in both Hebrew and English versions. ❖

## Reviews of Historic Online Newspapers in CRL's Global Resources Forum



**Virginia Kerr**

Digital Program Manager

Center for Research Libraries

*Times of India* building, corner of Elphinstone Cir., 1880. Genl. Nassau Lees, Proprietor.  
© British Library Board (Photo 643/[9]).

Reviews of online databases of historic newspapers are a key element of a new feature on CRL's website, the [Global Resources Forum](#). Formally launched in April 2011, but evolving from longstanding CRL cooperative collection-building efforts, the Forum aims to foster community exchange of information through analysis, reviews, feedback, and comments contributed by individuals at CRL libraries.

CRL now prepares analytical reviews for any online database for which it arranges licensing terms. The Forum also offers reviews of other e-resources of primary source collections of high interest to CRL and Global Resources libraries, including the areas of politics, legislation, finance, trade, and public policy. News databases are currently featured in the following Forum [reviews](#):

- *AskZad*
- *E.A.Z. (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)*
- *Izvestiia*
- *Pravda*
- *The Times of India*

Wherever possible, initial information for the reviews is compiled upon the first release announcement for a new database, and then continually augmented. CRL seeks confirmation of specifications and licensing terms directly from the publisher, then aggregates critical assessments of the content and interface when trial access is offered. Reviews of online newspaper titles such as *The Times of India* include publication and microfilming histories, noting holdings at CRL libraries.

These “community sourced” reviews are based on shared knowledge from assessments contributed by the CRL community. Individuals can either author full reviews or submit comments. Feedback forms posted with each review solicit views from all readers on the research value of the content and the strengths and weaknesses of the database platform. These comments will be integrated into the reviews, along with case studies of use or potential uses of the resource. The reviews will offer ongoing utility, reflecting the current value of various news databases in the overall environment of research resources of all formats.

CRL encourages readers to submit comments about the products reviewed as well as [suggestions](#) for future reviews, so that the Global Resources Forum can help CRL libraries to optimize return on their investments in digital collections and services. ❖

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### Center for Research Libraries Staff Contacts (800) 621-6044

President  
Bernard F. Reilly x 334  
breilly@crl.edu

Assistant to the President  
Yvonne Jefferson x 319  
yjefferso@crl.edu

Member Liaison and Outreach  
Services Director  
Mary Wilke x 351  
mwilke@crl.edu

Director of International Resources  
James Simon x 324  
jsimon@crl.edu

Director of Technical Services  
Amy Wood x 327  
awood@crl.edu

Director of Information Systems  
Patricia Xia x 341  
pxia@crl.edu

Head, Access Services  
Kevin Wilks x 314  
kwilks@crl.edu

Head, Stack Management  
Patricia Finney x 328  
pfinney@crl.edu

Digital Program Manager  
Virginia Kerr x 265  
vkerr@crl.edu

Communications Specialist  
Gwen Ihnat x 289  
gihnat@crl.edu

### Global Resources Program Contacts (800) 621-6044

Director  
James Simon x 324  
jsimon@crl.edu

Project Manager—DSAL Project  
Gerald Hall x 318  
ghall@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—  
Global Resources Network  
Judy Alspach x 323  
jalspach@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—Human Rights  
Sarah B. Van Deusen Phillips x 333  
svandeußen@crl.edu

### Contact for Information Regarding: (800) 621-6044

Billing/Invoicing/Deposit Accounts  
Accounting Department x 346

Membership/Communications/  
Public Relations/Marketing  
Don Dyer x 317  
ddyer@crl.edu

CRL Publications Orders (non-*FOCUS*)  
Meeting/Schedules  
Yvonne Jefferson x 319

Loans/Photocopies/Demand  
Purchases  
Access Services Department x 314

Microfilm/Microfiche Sales  
Lorraine Farley x 336  
lfarley@crl.edu

Purchase Proposals  
Mary Wilke x 351

Collection Deposits  
Mary Wilke x 351