

# Flash

## What's new ?



Ferdinand Lacina

Gerhard Roth © Andreas Horvath

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# 03  
APRIL  
2004

### Gerhard Roth

Prize-winning novelist, dramatist, and screenwriter Gerhard Roth started out as a student of medicine and a computer-programmer in Graz, before pursuing a life in the world of literature from 1976. Roth has been described as an investigator into Austrian society, an analyst of the Austrian soul, and an 'archaeologist' of Austrian history, whose works present historical amnesia as the Austrian disease par excellence. His seven-volume epic, *The Archives of Silence*, is an extended reflection on the historical, political, and social memories of his country and their impact on contemporary Austria—which has made him a controversial figure for many of his compatriots.

### Ferdinand Lacina

An outspoken, dynamic and well-known personality in Austria's political and economic sphere, Ferdinand Lacina has brought his high profile into play to speak against discrimination, racism and anti-immigration politics in Austria and elsewhere, as president of the Austrian League for Human Rights. As an economist, he moved up the ladder from Chief of Cabinet for the Federal Chancellor, to Federal Minister for Transport and Public Economy, to Federal Minister for Finance 1986-95. Since 2001, he has been a senior advisor to the Board of Management of the Bank Austria *Creditanstalt*, and in 1996 he became chairman of the Managing Board of *Giro Credit*.

## 15TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS TO FEATURE PERSPECTIVES BEYOND ARCHIVES

'Archives, Memory and Knowledge', the overarching theme of the 15th International Congress on Archives this August will not only be explored within the rich and diverse array of professional sessions. At the opening ceremony and during three plenary sessions, Congress participants also will have the opportunity to hear the perspectives and thoughts of four keynote speakers, whose spheres of activity are outside the archival profession.

These personalities from the worlds of politics, science, and culture have experiences closely linked to the Congress theme and will reflect on their respective encounters with archives.

A balance has been achieved in that two representatives of the host country will offer their views, alongside two speakers from outside Austria. Plenary sessions will be translated into five languages. To whet your appetite, the speakers will be introduced in this issue and the July issue of **Flash**.

Of course, you are all warmly invited to come and listen to the keynote speakers in person and form your own impressions. The first will be on the evening of Monday, 23 August 2004, during the opening of the Congress, which will be officially celebrated by the Head of State of the Republic of Austria.

### Lorenz Mikoletzky

ICA Senior Vice-President and 2004 Congress Host Director-General, Austrian State Archives

### Register Now !

15TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCHIVES

Vienna, Austria,  
23-29 August 2004

[www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org)



## IN BRIEF

### ICA PRESIDES OVER BLUE SHIELD—

ICA is taking its turn as leader of the International Committee on the Blue Shield (ICBS). In January, ICA Secretary-General Joan van Albada was elected chair of ICBS. For more information: [www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm](http://www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm)

RECOMMENDATIONS ON ELECTRONIC RECORD Last December, ICA presented UNESCO with recommendations on how to ensure the authenticity of electronic records. The full report is available at: [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

### People

New national archivists have taken up the reins in CROATIA - **Stjepan HOSIF**, THE FAROE ISLANDS - **Samal T.F. JOHANSEN**, INDIA - **Shitla PRASAD**, and SYRIA - **Nahad Nour Eddine EL JERD**.

EASTICA, the East Asian Regional Branch of ICA, has elected a new President: **MAO Fumin** (CHINA).

Two new faces have arrived to lend a hand at the ICA Secretariat: **Thorsten HARMS**, Congress Officer, and **Bjarni THORDARSON**, Programme Officer (on temporary assignment from the National Archives of Iceland).

For addresses see: **Contacts** or [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

### In Memoriam

JORGE PALACIOS PRECIADO 1940–2003 COLUMBIA ALA Secretary General (1981–1991), ALA Vice-President (1991–1995), ICA Executive Committee (1992–1996), ALA President and Director of ALA Journal (1995–1997).

DON RICHAN 1948–2004 CANADA Chair, ICA Section on University and Research Institution Archives (2002–2004)

MOHAMED IBRAHIM ABU SALIM 1927–2004 SUDAN ARBICA President (1976–1980), ICA Executive Committee (1976–1980), Honorary Member (1992)

CARLOS WYFFELS 1922–2003 BELGIUM ICA Executive Committee (1972–1974), ICA Secretary General (1975–1982), ICA President (1983–1984), Honorary Member (1988)

## ICA AGENDA

### Meetings

20 APRIL 2004 **Establishment Committee for Section for Sports Archives (ICA/SPO)** Madrid, Spain Contact: Françoise BOSMAN, [francoise.bosman@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:francoise.bosman@culture.gouv.fr)

21–23 APRIL 2004 **ICA Executive Committee** Madrid, Spain contact: [ica@ica.org](mailto:ica@ica.org)

24 APRIL 2004 **CITRA Bureau** Madrid, Spain Contact: Perrine CANAVAGGIO, [canavaggio@ica.org](mailto:canavaggio@ica.org)

29 APRIL – 2 MAY 2004 **ICA Committee on Professional Training (ICA/CPT)** Zagreb, Croatia Contact: Christine MARTINEZ, [christine.martinez@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:christine.martinez@culture.gouv.fr)

4–8 MAY 2004 **ICA Committee on Archival Legal Matters (ICA/CLM)** Kiev, Ukraine Contact: Claes GRÄNSTRÖM, [claes.granstrom@riksarkivet.ra.se](mailto:claes.granstrom@riksarkivet.ra.se)

6–10 MAY 2004 **ICA Committee on Preservation in Temperate Climates (ICA/CPTE)** Estonia Contact: Ted STEEMERS, [ted.steemers@nationaalarchief.nl](mailto:ted.steemers@nationaalarchief.nl)

9 JULY 2004 **ICA Executive Committee Bureau** Paris, France Contact: [ica@ica.org](mailto:ica@ica.org)

### Conferences

17–19 APRIL 2004 **Conference of the ICA Section for Education and Training (ICA/SAE)** Beijing, China Contact: WANG Jian, [wj@acruc.net](mailto:wj@acruc.net)

24–26 JUNE 2004 **Joint Technical Symposium (JTS)** Toronto, Canada Contact: [info@jts2004.org](mailto:info@jts2004.org) Internet: [www.jts.org](http://www.jts.org)

23–29 AUGUST 2004 **15th International Congress on Archives.** Theme: 'Archives, Memory and Knowledge' Vienna, Austria Contact: [wien2004@ica.org](mailto:wien2004@ica.org) Internet: [www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org)

### The International Council on Archives (ICA)

is dedicated to the advancement of archives through international collaboration. Archives, by providing evidence of human activities and transactions, underlie the rights of individuals and states, and are fundamental to democracy and good governance. In pursuing the advancement of archives, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world.

### Flash

communicates news on ICA activities and highlights current issues in archives. It is the complement to the in-depth professional reflection, reports and debate in *COMM*.

**Flash** is published three times a year as a membership benefit by ICA. Contents may be reproduced and translated in part or in whole, provided that credit is given. Information in this issue of *Flash* was current at the closing date for production, 1 March 2004.

### Flash is looking for contributions !

If you have a new flash for the archives world, send it to ICA. The closing date for the next issue is 1 June 2004.

**ICA**  
60 RUE DES FRANCS-BOURGEOIS,  
75003 PARIS, FRANCE.

T : + 33 14027 6306  
F : + 33 14272 2065  
E : [ica@ica.org](mailto:ica@ica.org)  
W : [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

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# Archives and Human Rights: The 'Spirit of Cape Town'

'The records are crucial to hold us accountable ... They are a potent bulwark against human rights violations. We must remember our past so we do not repeat it.' »

**Desmond Tutu, CITRA 2003**

In order to build on the 'Spirit of Cape Town' and to meet the expectations of conference participants, the CITRA Bureau looked for immediate, practical ways to follow-up the conference resolutions. The President of CITRA invited ICA members to become actively involved in their implementation. The resolutions are available at: [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

**General Resolutions:** The CITRA Bureau has sought support from the United Nations and UNESCO concerning the implementation of the general resolutions. The ICA consulted UNESCO about cooperation preparing for the International Convention on Cultural Diversity. The ICA will also be invited to follow-up meetings of the World Summit on the Information Society. The resolution on Iraq has been published on the website of the International Committee of the Blue Shield: [www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm](http://www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm)

**Resolutions on Archives in Africa:** ICA members are organising a meeting in Senegal to prepare for the various meetings of African archivists during the upcoming Congress in Vienna. Included on the agenda: the joint ministerial Declaration on Archives in Africa, protection of African manuscripts and a pan-African conference on oral memory.

**Resolution on Archives and Human Rights:** A new working group has emerged to build on the momentum generated at Cape Town and to coordinate the proposed human rights projects flowing from the resolutions. The following items will be presented and discussed in a session at the Vienna Congress:

- **Formulating guidelines** to enable countries to widely disseminate information to ensure the validation of human rights abuses;
- **Developing an exhibition** to illuminate the key role of archives in the upholding of human rights. It is hoped that a small sample of possibilities can be presented in Vienna;
- **Publishing the practical guide** on non-governmental organisation records in English, French, Spanish and Russian;
- **Developing an international guide to archives** for the protection of human rights. This will be discussed at the next meeting of the ICA Executive Committee. **Updating of the UNESCO/ICA 1995 study** will be carried out as part of developing this guide.
- **Proposing an 'Archives and Human Rights Prize'**. This will also be discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
- **Adding archival collections concerning human rights** to the Memory of the World Register. Please note that requests should be sent to UNESCO before 30 June 2004. Contact : Joie Springer : [j.springer@unesco.org](mailto:j.springer@unesco.org)

## Contacts :

**Armelle Le Goff, Secretary,  
Archives and Human Rights Working Group:**  
[armelle.legoff@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:armelle.legoff@culture.gouv.fr)  
**Perrine Canavaggio, CITRA Secretary**  
[canavaggio@ica.org](mailto:canavaggio@ica.org)

Photograph of  
the disappeared  
in Latin America,  
presented  
at CITRA 2003 .  
© Memoria Abierta



# 'Archives, Memory and Knowledge' Theme of Professional Programme

Archives, traditionally considered repositories for records, increasingly are becoming places of memory. This new function begs a number of questions: Whose memory? What memories of the past can be found there? How is a memory formed? What is the nature of common or collective memory and how is that found in the archive? What of the silences in the archive when memory can not be recovered or authenticated? What is the relationship of memory and group or individual identity? These questions are at the core of the program for the 15th International Congress on Archives in Vienna, 23–29 August 2004.

An understanding of the role of the archives as a repository for memory helps convey a sense of the role of the archives as a place of knowledge. The archives informs and conveys knowledge. It mediates between the past and our memories of that past.

Around the overarching Congress theme of 'Archives, Memory and Knowledge,' a great number of sessions, workshops, and presentations are now being prepared. The Congress website previews the rich professional programme that is taking shape as archival professionals in ICA's 174 member countries confirm their session speakers and presentation titles. The Austrian State Archives and ICA will welcome more than 2,000 participants from around the world, including 500 speakers, making for a truly international event. Speakers are already confirmed from Australia and Fiji, Japan and Malaysia, Algeria and Cameroon, Brazil and Barbados, France and Russia, Canada and the United States, among other countries.

To bring to life the new, more interactive format of the 2004 Congress, ICA called on its branches, sections, committees, and the international archival community to propose diverse contributions for the professional programme. The resulting rich offering of session proposals reflects the multiple facets of the archival profession. For example, there will be a substantial number of sessions presenting and debating best practices, and looking at how to develop the archives and records profession through training and education. The reflection on the role and positioning of archives in society, initiated in the current CITRA conference cycle, will be further explored. Case studies on records and archives management include the Getty Center in Los Angeles, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Zurich State Archives, Vienna City Archives, and many others.

Since the first International Congress on Archives was held a half century ago, it has been the primary place for professional discourse, which by its nature requires input, cooperation, and agreement between countries. International areas of concern to be discussed in Vienna include: archives displaced by wars and transitions; series separated across institutions and borders; interoperability of electronic networks; and custody and access arrangements for records of multi-national corporations. New accords, standards, and official positions are expected to be proposed for agreement in several areas.

The Congress will provide multiple streams of concurrent sessions. To guide participants through the programme, sessions have been grouped into the following sub-themes:

## ARCHIVES AND MEMORY

- 1.1 Concepts of Memory**
- 1.2 Risk, Loss and Recovery**
- 1.3 Preserving Virtual Memory**
- 1.4 Case Studies**
- 1.5 Workshops and Seminars**

## ARCHIVES AND KNOWLEDGE

- 2.1 Professional Development**
- 2.2 Standards and Best Practices**
- 2.3 Research**
- 2.4 Case Studies**
- 2.5 Workshops and Seminars**

## ARCHIVES AND SOCIETY

- 3.1 Service to Society**
- 3.2 Advocacy, Outreach and Access**
- 3.3 Legal Issues**
- 3.4 Case Studies**
- 3.5 Workshops and Seminars**

**Francis X. Blouin, Lorenz Mikoletzky,**  
and **Joan van Albada**  
Vienna Congress Programme Committee



## AFRICA'S ARCHIVISTS TO SET PRIORITIES AT ICA CONGRESS



CITRA 2003 participants

The Vienna Congress will be the venue for a landmark series of meetings bringing together professional leaders from ICA's African member countries to draft ICA's agenda of goals and actions for archives in Africa. Drawing on the momentum of the meetings of government leaders and archives directors held during the 2003 CITRA in Cape Town, this African agenda will create a framework for archivists from all parts of the continent to define their priorities on the basis of their own contexts, needs and potential.

The timing is better than ever after the events of the Cape Town CITRA which saw the Ministers responsible for archives from nine countries in ICA's Eastern and South Africa Regional Branch (ESARBICA) spend two days discussing the African archival situation. Together they issued a groundbreaking joint ministerial Declaration on Archives in Africa, which calls for governments, regional structures, all-African multi-lateral organisations and donor agencies to give full support to endeavours of national and other archival institutions to better manage official records (in all media), preserve historic archives, record oral memory and traditions so that the people of Africa can be better informed and make use of archival information and thus be better empowered to exercise their full human rights.

A number of issues are already proposed for discussion in Vienna. As well as the implementation of the recommendations of the Ministerial Declaration on Archives in Africa, these include:

- preservation of ancient historical manuscripts,
- archives of the liberation struggles,
- electronic records management,
- oral history / memory,
- conservation training, and
- networking between all African regions.

By the time the Vienna Congress begins, many more will no doubt be added.

### Contacts :

**Joel TEMBE** (MOZAMBIQUE):

[joeltembe@hotmail.com](mailto:joeltembe@hotmail.com)

**Graham DOMINY** (SOUTH AFRICA) :

[Graham.Dominy@dac.gov.za](mailto:Graham.Dominy@dac.gov.za)

**Marcel CAYA** (ICA SECRETARIAT) :

[caya@ica.org](mailto:caya@ica.org)

## ARCHIVES LITERARY CAFÉ FOLLOWS VIENNESE TRADITION



Café in Vienna's Ringstrasse source: Wiener Stadt- und Landesarchiv.

A unique feature of the 15th International Congress on Archives will be an 'Archives Salon' in the exhibition hall. Hosted by the Editorial Board of *Comma*, ICA's journal, the Salon will feature comfortable chairs and coffee and will offer a place within the Congress for reflection and discussion between readers and authors of journal articles and other recent ICA publications. It will be like a literary café following in the footsteps of Vienna's famed coffee houses, where legendary authors such as Franz Kafka, Arthur Schnitzler, and Hugo von Hofmannsthal wrote, read, and discussed literary and political ideas.

A session on 'Love in the Archives' will kick off the Salon, followed by round tables where participants can meet and talk with authors from a stream of special issues of ICA's journal, *Comma*, on indigenous people and archives, as well as archives and archival practices of Russia, Central Europe, the Nordic countries, and France.

The Archives Salon will provide an ideal venue for browsing through recently published professional literature, followed by relaxed discussion among authors and audience. Publications discussed in the salon will be available for acquisition at the adjacent ICA stand in the Congress exhibition hall.

# Having a Fine Time—Austrian Style « Ausg'steckt is ! »



Working in archives, as we all know, sometimes can be a dry affair. With this in mind, the hosts of the 15th International Congress on Archives have organized some social events that will give participants a chance to take their minds off all matters archival in order to enjoy other aspects of Vienna and Austria.

To start the week, the festive opening of the Congress on 23 August 2004 will be celebrated in the Austria Center, where high ranking representatives of the Republic of Austria, as well as prominent figures from culture and science, are invited. A buffet featuring typically Austrian culinary delights, as well as musical performances, will complete the evening.

For those who are not familiar with the host country's culture, you will glimpse Austrian wine traditions through a visit to a Heurige. Originating in the 18th century, a Heurige marks the place where people traditionally can taste new wine. The Hapsburg emperor permitted wine growers to serve and sell their wine within their own facilities, but only for a certain period of time in order to protect the business of existing restaurants. This often included limitations on the kind of food offered. To show prospective customers that the new wine (or Heurige) was available for tasting, owners and wine growers put up a lantern near the entrance door. Sometimes they used another symbol, which is

still in use today—a wooden branch with or without a light. It is this symbol that is referred to in the phrase “ausg'steckt is” (from the German ausstecken, to stick out something), which is an invitation: Come along and have some wine! The tradition is alive, although one thing has changed. In Vienna and in the most popular wine areas many Heurige are now run like restaurants, permitted to serve wine anytime and to serve all kinds of dishes.

For those who associate Vienna with waltzing—no problem! You and your (registered) accompanying persons are cordially invited to a glittering evening ball in the spectacular historical setting of the Viennese Town Hall. The musical programme for the evening will range from classical waltzes and ballroom music to more modern tunes and has been put together under the motto, “The Congress Dances!” (the title of a musical production immortalized on film by Germany's UFA Studios in 1931). Dance performances will set your toes tapping while cold and warm hors d'oeuvres will tempt your palate during the ball.

## HOW TO REGISTER

**Registration for the 15th International Congress on Archives is now open.**

You can register online at [www.wien2004.ica.org](http://www.wien2004.ica.org) or fill in and return the printed registration form.

To enable better planning, all participants are asked to register before 31 May 2004.

**For registration questions, contact:**  
[icaz004@ahr-aims.com](mailto:icaz004@ahr-aims.com)

**OPTIONAL:** You can also choose to reserve a room in a wide range of Vienna hotels and book various interesting excursions and tours to explore Austria and neighboring countries. Please note that this is not included in the Congress registration fee.

## Are you Coming to Vienna this August?

- How do I know if I am up to date with the latest professional knowledge?
- How do I learn about existing and upcoming standards and best practices?
- How do I evaluate various options for the projects I want to undertake?
- Where can I survey existing knowledge and literature to see if anyone shares my concerns?
- Which basic training or specialized continuing education will I need for myself or my staff?
- How do I anticipate possible problems and address risks – practical, political, financial or legal – in implementing a new programme or improving an existing one?
- How can I verify if my capacity is sufficient to undertake an innovative project?
- Where can I meet colleagues, experts and specialists so that I can ask them questions and discuss concerns informally?
- How do I encourage my students or staff to gain knowledge based on national and international practises about archival issues of importance?
- How do I convince my authorities that archives are an essential service to the organization and to society?
- How can I anticipate the changes that will cause the profession to evolve in the next few years and decades?

Vienna is the place for you from 23 to 29 August 2004 if meeting new colleagues has a chance to help you. For the first time, the International Congress on Archives, which takes place only once every four years, will bring together your colleagues as part of a global professional community in order to enable dialogue at all levels. It will celebrate archives by stimulating your various interests. Workshops, discussion of case studies and more formal sessions, often in a single language – English, French, Spanish, German or Russian – will promote more direct exchanges. In a friendly atmosphere, it will do everything possible to enable archival directors, professionals and experts to meet one another, whether beginners, mid-career professionals or veterans.

If meeting colleagues from every corner of the world interests you, start making your arrangements today.



## Shape the Future of ICA at the General Assembly 27-28 August 2004

The International Congress on Archives is also the time every four years when the top decision-making body of ICA meets—the ‘plenipotentiary’ General Assembly. The General Assembly will take place the afternoon of 27 August and the morning of 28 August 2004. Every member is encouraged to participate in the decision-making process at the General Assembly. However, to maintain geographical balance, only national members have the right to vote (category A and B, with a maximum of two votes per country and category).

ICA depends on the active and enthusiastic participation of its members and volunteers in order to reach its main objectives. As such, its effectiveness as an organisation directly reflects its ability to accommodate the various professional areas worldwide, regardless of tradition and language. ICA's General Assembly ideally reflects all its members. In fact, there is plenty of work for everyone who is willing to play his or her part in this international association.

Votes are cast for only those agenda items requiring a formal decision. This typically occurs following discussion of the issues. The General Assembly 2004 agenda includes some major items that will have a considerable impact on the future of ICA:

- a new constitution, allowing for a more effective and more democratic structure for ICA;
- the establishment of two new sections;
- approval of the updated fees scale for membership;
- the strategic priorities for the period 2004–2010; and
- the award of honours for outstanding service.

**In Vienna, elections for office will not be held** as the new constitution introduces a postal ballot system.

**Every member is welcome to the General Assembly. Come and help shape the future of ICA!**

## Apropos Meetings: ICA Business Meetings at the Congress

The Congress is also home to an intensive series of working meetings of ICA's executive committee, commissions, branches, sections, committees, and project groups—incoming and outgoing—where the latest archival principles and practices may be developed. These are scheduled as follows:

### SATURDAY AUGUST 21

10:00–18:00  
Executive Committee  
(2000–2004)

### SUNDAY AUGUST 22

10:00–13:00  
ICA/CEP – Commission on  
Programme Evaluation  
10:00–13:00  
CITRA Bureau  
14:30–17:30  
ICA/CPM – Commission on  
Programme Management

### MONDAY AUGUST 23

09:00–12:45  
Meetings of Steering Committees of Regional Branches and Sections (2000–2004) and of Committees (2000–2004)  
14:15–17:00  
Member Meetings of of Regional Branches and Sections, Meetings of Professional Committees (2000–2004 with 2004–2008)

### FRIDAY AUGUST 27

09:00–12:30  
Meetings of Steering Committees of Regional Branches and Sections (2004–2008) and of Committees (2004–2008)

### SATURDAY AUGUST 28

15:00–18:00  
Joint Meeting of Chairs and Secretaries of Sections, Regional Branches, Professional Committees and ICA Secretariat

### MONDAY AUGUST 30

10:30–12:45  
ICA/CEP – Commission on  
Programme Evaluation  
10:30–12:45  
CITRA Bureau  
14:00–17:00  
ICA/CPM – Commission  
on Programme Management

### TUESDAY AUGUST 31

10:00–18:00  
Executive Committee  
2004–2008

**Keep an eye on the ICA website for more information and meeting papers (to be posted as they become available):**

[www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

## Archives Speak for the Memory of Nations at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

Kofi Annan,  
UN Secretary General,  
at the opening  
ceremony of WSIS.  
© ITU/Jean-Marc Ferré



The World Summit on the Information Society took place in Geneva on 10-12 December 2003, as the outcome of a first long stage of preparation and negotiations. Archives, through the intermediary of ICA, but also through various governments (in the voices of national archives) and professional associations, were mobilised to speak for their interests so that these would feature in the final 'Declaration of Principles' and 'Plan of Action', the two official documents adopted at the completion of the summit.

Andreas Kellerhals (EURBICA Bureau member) participated in the Swiss working group (the Tripartite Platform) for more than a year, in order to influence the negotiations concerning the two policy documents. Thanks to his and many others' efforts, and also to the support of librarians, the interests of archives, and of the archival profession in general, appear several times in the final declaration. The result is rather encouraging, with records and archives named at 4 points in the declaration and 7 points in the plan of action.

The c. 20 minute film "ARCHIVES, MEMORY AND DEMOCRACY IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY" presents the issue of archives and records management in a global manner, and is an excellent introductory and awareness raising tool. It is available in DVD format in a trilingual version (French, German, English). To order a free copy or for other information, contact: Ms Célia Francillon, Swiss Federal Archives, [celia.francillon@bar.admin.ch](mailto:celia.francillon@bar.admin.ch)

During the summit, ICA together with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) financed a stand in the 'ICT4D' Platform, which was held parallel to the political summit. This platform, organised by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), aimed to be a forum for dialogue between governments, civil society and the private sector on the theme ICT [Information and Communications Technology] and Development. Various governments, international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and companies presented their activities and projects in relation to the very broad concept of the Information Society.

With the help of a documentary film on 'Archives, Memory and Democracy in the Information Society', produced by Frédéric Hausammann, and with visual aids including a poster and flyers, a team of volunteers from the Swiss Federal Archives attempted to spread the message on 'records, archives and good governance' and to raise awareness of delegates and visitors to the summit on the risks of a society without memory.

It was not easy to make the voice of archivists heard at a platform where stands competed through lights, music and diverse new technologies. But it was important to be there. It confirmed that questions of electronic archiving are recurrent and concern information professionals.

Archives were well represented at the WSIS 2003. It is now a matter of getting results... and of preparing the 2nd phase of the summit in Tunis in 2005!

**Andreas Kellerhals**  
and **Célia Francillon**,  
Swiss Federal Archives

**For more information**  
on the ICT4D Platform:  
[www.ict-4d.org/](http://www.ict-4d.org/)

## Bridging the Digital Divide in Eastern Africa

The World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva was certainly a good learning experience – it allowed participants see where technology has reached around the world. With more than 12,000 delegates, all geographical regions and professional groups were represented. On behalf of East African archives, I presented a short profile of our technology needs, emphasising that archives and libraries are vital resources for human development, people's empowerment, and poverty reduction.

In Eastern Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia), there is already a good potential of archival and library institutions—with vast information needed by Eastern African communities and the general public at large. But preservation and access have been hindered by a lack of information technology and infrastructure; therefore, causing a technological divide that needs a common effort and approach to be bridged.

We are working with ICA and the Swiss National Commission for UNESCO to develop a major regional initiative to address this 'digital divide,' including:

- Training a skilled workforce in new information systems and technology.
- Putting in place the relevant information and communication infrastructure to manage information and expand access. This includes a common website among Eastern African countries and to the general public; hence urgent networking and connectivity among the East African institutions.
- Transforming the present manually based system—the finding aids and catalogue—into an electronic and automated system for efficient management of information and greater access to it.



- Appraising and digitizing former East African Community Records that belonged to Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania (mainland) and Zanzibar. This would facilitate information sharing among the member countries and the public at large.
- Unique and important records found in these countries will also be put online so that they can be easily used by the people of these countries and the general public.

**Hamad H. Omar**, National Archives of Tanzania-Zanzibar

**For more information:**  
[www.bridgecontentdivide.net](http://www.bridgecontentdivide.net)

## 50th Anniversary of The Hague Convention!

This year marks the 50th anniversary of signing of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict at The Hague, Netherlands, on 14 May 1954. ICA is a founding member of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS), which works to protect the world's cultural heritage threatened by wars and natural disasters, and is recognised in the Second Protocol to The Hague Convention, agreed in 1999.



### How Best to Celebrate?

- **Form a National Committee of the Blue Shield in your country!**
- **Lobby your government to support the Hague Convention!**
- **Organise awareness raising and training for disaster preparedness and response!**

**For more information:**  
[www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm](http://www.ifla.org/blueshield.htm)  
[www.unesco.org/culture](http://www.unesco.org/culture)

## KEY WORDS FOR ARCHIVES

**World Summit on the Information Society, Geneva, December 2003**

The **Declaration of Principles** and **Plan of Action** endorsed by 44 Heads of State, Prime Ministers, Presidents, Vice-Presidents and 83 ministers and vice-ministers from 176 countries, in Geneva on 12 December 2003, included the following statements for archives:

### Key Principles

Information and communication infrastructure: an essential foundation for an inclusive information society – [...] **In disadvantaged areas, the establishment of ICT [information and communication technology] public access points in places such as [...] archives** can provide effective means for ensuring universal access to the infrastructure and services of the Information Society. [B2, 23]

Access to information and knowledge – **Public institutions such as [...] archives, [...] should be strengthened so as to promote the preservation of documentary records and free and equitable access to information.** [B3, 26]

### Targets for 2015

**To connect public libraries, cultural centres [...] and archives with ICTs** [B, 6d]

### Action Lines

Access to information and knowledge – **Support the creation and development of digital [...] archive services**, adapted to the Information Society. [C3, 10h]

Enabling environment – **Develop a framework for the secure storage and archival [preservation] of documents and other electronic records of information.** [C6, 13h]

Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content – **Develop national policies and laws to ensure that [...] archives [...] can play their full role of content—including traditional knowledge—providers in the Information Society, more particularly by providing continued access to recorded information.** [C8, 23b]

Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content – **Support efforts to develop and use ICTs for the preservation of [...] cultural heritage**, keeping it accessible as a living part of today's culture. This includes developing systems for **ensuring continued access to archived digital information and multimedia content in digital repositories, and support archives [...] as the memory of humankind.** [C8, 23c]

**For more information:**  
[www.itu.int/wsis/documents/](http://www.itu.int/wsis/documents/)

## EURASICA'S MEMBER COUNTRIES MAKE PROGRESS FROM SURVIVAL TO GROWTH



The participants at EURASICA's General Conference in Minsk.

The state archives of seven countries in the Eurasia Regional Branch of ICA (EURASICA) recognized a transition from a basic 'survival' strategy to increasing progress at EURASICA's 4th General Conference, in Minsk, Byelorussia, on 10 November 2003.

Representatives of the archival institutions of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine presented brief reports on the development of archives in their respective countries. The conference participants ascertained with satisfaction that the transition of the majority of archival services of the member states of the branch from a strategy of 'survival' to a strategy of development. Work is being implemented on the perfection of the legal and regulatory basis for the archival sphere, security measures are being taken for archival buildings and the documents stored in them, the use of the archival documents is increasing in pace, including the application of the latest professional and technical innovations, and modern information technologies are being actively applied to the functions of archival institutions, initially in the field of creation of retrieval systems. There are state programs for development of culture in some countries (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine), within the framework of which the means for development of archives are allocated.

At the same time the rates and scales of transition in each country vary. Common problems for the majority of the countries continue to exist, such as imperfect archival legislation (in particular, the discrepancy between regulations and legal acts passed recently and earlier statutes, and also the laws existing in other spheres of economic and public life of the countries), the unsatisfactory material base,

the low level of social protection for archivists, and the training and continuing education of the archival staff. In connection with this, all the participants noted the importance of bilateral and multilateral professional cooperation, and exchange of information and working experience, which play an important role in the development of archives in the member countries of the branch.

The representative of Ukraine informed participants on the measures taken by the archival service of Ukraine for recovery from the consequences of the fire in the Kamenetz-Podolsk Municipal Archive (see **Flash** no. 1, 2003-09). Ukraine has appealed for help to the International Council on Archives. Mr. Vladimir Kozlov, the president of EURASICA, supported the appeal of the Ukrainian archives on behalf of the branch.

Activities of EURASICA in 2002-2003 included:

- Two professional conferences ('Legal problems of the archives in the Eurasian region,' Astana, September 2002, and 'Information Technologies in Archives,' Minsk, May 2003);
- Allocation of funds for development of an electronic database of archival legislation of the countries of the Eurasian region;
- Publication of three issues of the EURASICA Information Bulletin; and
- Maintenance of the EURASICA home-page on the Internet site 'Archives of Russia' at:

[www.rusarchives.ru](http://www.rusarchives.ru)

**Full minutes of EURASICA's 4th General Conference are available (in English and Russian) on the ICA website:**  
[www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

**Vladimir KOZLOV**, PRESIDENT, EURASICA  
**Kirill CHERNENKOV**, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, EURASICA  
[interdept@rusarchives.ru](mailto:interdept@rusarchives.ru)

## ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO NEW SECTIONS WITHIN ICA

Last June, the ICA Executive Committee welcomed the establishment of two new ICA sections. These are to be officially launched as provisional sections during the International Congress on Archives in Vienna. Statements of the objectives of both new sections are available on the ICA website at: [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org)

### NOTARIAL RECORDS

If you are interested in joining this section, contact Françoise Mosser: [francoise.mosser@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:francoise.mosser@culture.gouv.fr)

Notaries, or "notaries public", exist as an institution in more than a hundred countries and are in the process of expansion. The certified legal documents provided by notaries cover all areas of individual and public life. Their preservation is of great importance, for both citizens and historians. The objective of the **Section on Notarial Records** is to promote preservation, research and accessibility of the records produced by notaries worldwide. It will encourage international cooperation between records and archives professionals interested in this area, in collaboration with the notaries themselves, in particular to facilitate a standardized system of description and to study the consequences of electronic legal documents. The International Institute of the History of Notaries, which brings together notaries and researchers from 38 countries, actively supports this development. The establishment committee is chaired by Françoise Mosser, France. Maria Teresa Diez de Los Rios San Juan, Spain, and Michel Oosterbosch, Belgium, are deputy chairs.

# UPDATE ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The subcommittee of the International Standards Organisation responsible for archives/records management (ISO/TC46/SC11) made significant progress on its metadata guidelines and kicked off the first revision of the international records management standard at its meeting in Tokyo, Japan, in November 2003.

After the launch of the international standard for records management (ISO 15489) in 2001, the subcommittee had commenced several follow-up activities aimed at providing guidelines on different aspects of the standard. These projects concern records management metadata; access rules; relationships with related areas, such as information management, workflow management and knowledge management; and a self-assessment guide for the standard.

One of the main issues advanced at the November meeting was the completion of a set of principles for **records management metadata**. This forms part of a series of three documents, the other two being a practical guide on implementation issues and an overview of how existing metadata sets or schemas (such as MoReq, DoD 5015.2, Dublin Core, and the Australian RKMS) relate to ISO 15489. The third document is being developed in collaboration with the InterPARES 2 Project. The document on metadata principles had already gone through an ISO ballot procedure and has been accepted by the members of TC46/SC11. After editing it will be published as a technical specification numbered 'ISO/TS 23081' in the first half of 2004. It will also be of high value to the archival community.

It was also decided to start the **review of the international standard**, a process that should happen every five years under ISO procedures. A questionnaire will be circulated to gather comments from organisations and other stake-

holders. In relation to this process, it was also decided to suspend the work on the self-assessment guide, which must be closely in line with the standard.

An interesting discussion was held about the proposed **PDF/A ('Portable Document Format / Archiving') standard**. The current proposal of the ISO technical committee for document management applications (TC 171) was not regarded as offering long-term guarantees, so the records and archives subcommittee drafted a document for TC 171 commenting on this and offering some alternatives to make the standard comply with archival requirements. Based on this the committee decided to draft a document that identifies and describes archival requirements for file formats.

The next ISO/TC46/SC11 meeting will be in May 2004 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The subcommittee will also present sessions on the international records management standard and follow-up projects at the 15th International Congress on Archives in Vienna, 23-29 August 2004.

**Hans Hofman**, ICA LIAISON, ISO/TC46/SC11  
[hans.hofman@nationaalarchief.nl](mailto:hans.hofman@nationaalarchief.nl)

**Useful Links for More Information**  
**MoReq:** [www.cornwell.co.uk/moreq](http://www.cornwell.co.uk/moreq)

**DoD 5015.2:** [www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/html/50152std.htm](http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/html/50152std.htm)

**Dublin Core:** <http://dublincore.org/>

**Australian RKMS:** [www.naa.gov.au/recordkeeping/control/rkms/summary.htm](http://www.naa.gov.au/recordkeeping/control/rkms/summary.htm)

**InterPARES:** [www.interpares.org/](http://www.interpares.org/)

Olympic Games, Stockholm, 1912  
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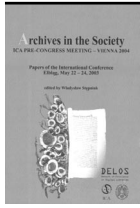


## SPORT ARCHIVES

Sports occupy an important place in our contemporary society, and also generate an enormous amount of information which is the object of growing public interest and is used in many different ways. The **Section on Sport Archives** aims to encourage the promotion, preservation and accessibility of public and private archives relating to sports and the Olympic Games, through international cooperation. The chair of the establishment committee is Abdulla El Reyes, United Arab Emirates, deputy chair is Cristina Bianchi, director of the archives of the International Olympic Committee, and Françoise Bosman, France, is secretary.

If you are interested in joining this section or would like to assist the committee, contact Françoise Bosman: [francoise.bosman@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:francoise.bosman@culture.gouv.fr)

## NEW ICA PUBLICATIONS



ARCHIVES IN SOCIETY:  
ICA PRE-CONGRESS  
MEETING — VIENNA

2004,  
Papers of the  
International  
Conference, Elblag,  
22-24 May 2003,  
Wladyslaw Stepniak

(editor), State Archives of Poland,  
2003. English. 293 pages.

The ICA Pre-Congress Seminar in Elblag, Poland, brought together speakers from three ICA committees to verify the effectiveness of the new model planned for the Vienna Congress, in conjunction with the IX International Conference on Archives of Central Eastern Europe. The resulting proceedings offer a rich array of insights from ICA specialists into the latest practices and theories for appraisal, electronic records and archival legal matters, as well as perspectives on European coordination and experiences of transition in countries including Belarus, Finland, Poland, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine, and Russia.

**For further information  
and orders:**

[editions@archiwa.gov.pl](mailto:editions@archiwa.gov.pl)

**Limited copies available free  
from ICA; Check the ICA  
Stand at the Vienna Congress!**

EAST ASIAN ARCHIVES,  
no. 9, 2003, East Asian Regional  
Branch of ICA. English. 155 pages.

**Theme :** ARCHIVAL LEGAL MATTERS AND  
CHALLENGES CONFRONTING ARCHIVES  
IN THE REGION

Keynote addresses, professional papers, and reports from the EASTICA seminar held in Macao in December 2002, with input from the ICA Committee on Archival Legal Matters, are presented in the latest issue of the branch's beautiful journal, East Asian Archives. Topics covered by the ICA committee members include legal authenticity, copyright and access for electronic records, international archival claims, and principles for archives and records legislation. Directors from state archives in the region present their experiences and strategies to overcome shared problems.

**Available online:**

[www.eastica.org](http://www.eastica.org)

EASTICA NEWSLETTER,  
no. 2, Nov. 2003, East Asian Regional  
Branch of ICA. English and Korean.  
10 pages.

A special essay on the commission investigating improvement and consolidation of Japan's public archival systems opens this issue, which also features updates on current developments in Japan, Hong Kong (China), Korea and Mongolia.

**Available online:**

[www.eastica.org](http://www.eastica.org)

GUIDE TO THE ARCHIVAL SOURCES  
OF THE HISTORY OF MYANMAR,  
vol.1, (ICA Guide to the Sources of  
Asian History, vol 14.1, Myanmar),  
Khin Mar Mar (compiler), National  
Archives Department, Myanmar,  
2003. English. 184 pages.

This latest volume in the ICA/UNESCO History of Nations series describes records of the British administration of Myanmar from 1853 to 1948, housed at the National Archives of Myanmar. This series of immense research value for Myanmar's history is open for public access by researchers from Myanmar and abroad. All the records open for access have been microfilmed and the accession lists digitized for electronic access in the Myanmar National Archives' search-rooms.

**For further information  
and orders:**

National Archives Department,  
114 Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road,  
Rangoon, Dagon Township, Myanmar  
(Burma). F: 951 254011

[nad@mptmail.net.mm](mailto:nad@mptmail.net.mm)

## What's new in COMMA ?



### Archives and Archival Issues of Russia

Contributors to issue 2002.3-4 of ICA's journal *Comma* share the story of incremental progress achieved lately—especially in the redistribution of responsibility and control over archives, rapprochements with colleagues abroad, and newer considerations of the particularly Russian histories of provenance and centralization. They also address the problems of archives diminished by poverty, conflicting interests, and distorted historical analysis. The revolution of 1917, World War II, and the Cuban Missile Crisis all attracted authors to this issue with expertise in the international relations of Russia, as viewed through archives in Russia and abroad. Beautiful images from St. Petersburg's past reward the reader. Perhaps the issue's pages will answer as many questions as they raise, about a country identified by Sir Winston Churchill as 'a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma.'

Nancy BARTLETT

### Archives and Indigenous People

*Comma* 2003.1 can be seen as a paying heed to the imperative to respect indigenous peoples and their ways of knowing. From conception, its rationale has been to invite in space for 'the indigenous' within dominant discourses on archives. The editors deliberately eschewed even a working definition of 'archives' for the issue, not wanting to exclude contributions working outside conventional (ie. dominant) notions of what belongs under the category. The term 'indigenous peoples' was taken to refer to collectivities (communities, clans, societies, etc) who define themselves in this way and who are dealing with, or have dealt with, dispossession and marginalisation by forces, structures and people from 'outside'. Of the ten essays brought together by the editors, three emanate from Africa, five from the Pacific and one from North America.

Verme HARRIS

### Nordic Archives

*Comma* 2003.4 (coming soon!) will be devoted to archival issues in the Nordic countries—Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. They share periods of common history and administrative cultures, many of their inhabitants speak languages related to each other, and the past century has seen close Nordic cooperation in many fields. The articles deal with a wide range of topics, from archival legislation, digital archival descriptions and new approaches to appraisal, to the archives related to Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, the Icelandic Health Sector Database, documentation on Norwegian-German children of the war, and a classic essay on 'The Memory of a Person' and a piece on 'Love in the Archives.'

Anna SVENSON

NANCY BARTLETT  
Editor, *Comma*  
[nbart@umich.edu](mailto:nbart@umich.edu)