



Vilnius University Library



In 2024, the activities of Vilnius University Library were developed in the following fields: the provision of information services, open science, scientific communication, technological development, heritage collections management, and research.

The most important achievements of the year were: the implementation of the library services platform ALMA (LSP ALMA) and the advancement of Open Science (OS) activities. LSP ALMA, a new generation cloud-based LSP, enables the management of electronic and physical resources all in one place, ensures intuitive search and integration with internal and external systems, and contributes to the creation of a convenient information environment. Notable OS achievements included the approval of the University's membership in the European Citizen Science Association (ECSA), an analysis of the need for OS specialists, the creation of a one-stop-shop OS consulting portal, and two events organised for the first time in University history – the Month of Citizen Science and the competition for the Promotion of a Significant Contribution to Open Science. The latter recognised four initiatives by honouring: Dr Saulius Gražulis, Professor at the Life Sciences Center; Dr Giedrė Beconytė, Professor at the Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences; Dr Saulė Mačiukaitė-Žvinienė, Professor at the Business School; and the team of the Faculty of History – Assist. Prof. Dr Norbertas Černiauskas, Assoc. Prof. Dr Salvijus Kulevičius, and Vakarė Gotautaitė.

We are pleased with the development of the Library's activities and the growing activity of our users. The utilisation of information resources increased by almost 0.5 million units, while the number of subscribed databases (100) remained stable, ensuring access to the latest resources. The number of training sessions organised by the Library increased by 26 per cent, with eight new topics offered. The number of users increased by nearly two thousand, and overall attendance increased by 5.5 per cent.

Library staff delivered 15 conference presentations (seven of which were made abroad), prepared 17 scientific articles (seven were in a foreign language), and wrote 15 texts promoting science. Two researchers who studied the activities of printing houses in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 18th century and the manuscript heritage of the University's researchers contributed significantly to this.

In 2024, 85 events were organised, including commemorative exhibitions marking the 20th anniversary of Lithuania's membership in NATO and the EU, the centenary of the Lithuanian Song Celebration, and significant dates related to key figures who shaped the history of the University: the 130th anniversary of Ona Šimaitė, the 150th of Michał Eustachy Brensztejn, the 80th of Rolandas Pavilionis, and the 100th anniversary of Alfonsas Basalykas. The book 'An Illustrated Handbook to the Early Vilnius Printing Houses' by Dr Ina Kažuro, Mindaugas Marazas, and Dr Veronika Girininkaitė was dedicated to the 500th anniversary of the Book Printing in Lithuania.

Since the very establishment of the eLABa Consortium of the Lithuanian Academic Electronic Library in 2010, the Library has been actively involved in its activities. In 2024, after the University was elected the administrative institution of the Consortium, the Library resumed these functions. A decision was made at the national level to jointly acquire LSP ALMA. As part of its implementation, a joint catalogue of 30 libraries of higher education and research institutions was developed based on the University Library. The Library staff actively contributed their expertise to LSP ALMA implementation activities.

In September, the summer school seminar for CERL heritage specialists was held, and a researcher at the Library, Dr Ina Kažuro, participated in the project 'Bazylianie prowincji litewskiej w latach 1617–1839' (NCN funding from the Polish Research Council). On 31 October, the international EU-funded project EODOPEN (eBooks-On-Demand-Network Opening Publications for European Netizens) was completed, during which the Library and its partners from eleven European countries digitised and published 15,000 documents (the Library contributed 1,063 of these).

Traditional events also took place, including the Christmas evening, 'Festum Nostrum', and team building activities. A new initiative involving civil resistance lectures and first aid training was organised.

The Rector's letters of appreciation were awarded to the Head of the Manuscripts Division, Dr Inga Liepaitė, and the exhibition curator at the Communication and Information Office, Snieguolė Misiūnienė, for her long-term work, research on cultural heritage, and active cooperation with memory institutions.

Irena Krivienė, Director

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

VU Library collections:

Vilnius University Library is an academic library of national significance that was founded back in 1570 in Vilnius. It is the oldest academic library in the Baltic States. The VU Library consists of the Central Library, the Scholarly Communication and Information Centre (MKIC), as well as libraries of the academic units.

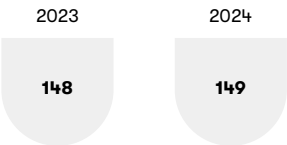
almost **4.9 million** prints, of which more than **one million** are attributed to cultural heritage (documents up to 1945)

100 databases containing **788,898** e-documents (52,679 e-journals, 631,162 e-books, and 105,057 other objects)

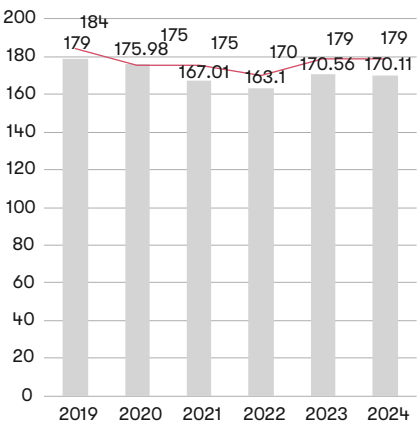
the pride of the VU Library – the collections of old prints, manuscripts, antique engravings, and other scientific and cultural heritage collections

Number of employees and posts in 2019–2024

Number of employees who have developed their qualifications at least once a year in 2023–2024



Data of 31 December



Data of 31 December

Change in the number of employees in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

1.36 %

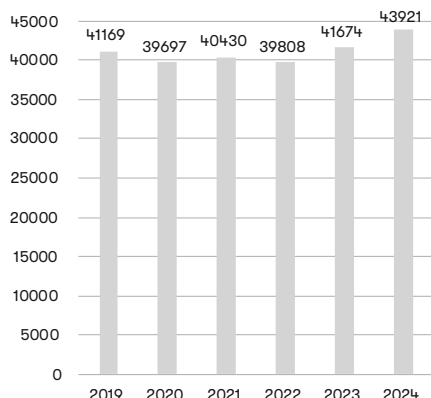
Change in the number of posts in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

-0.6 %

Implementation of the VU Library strategy, 2023–2024

	Initial value, 2022	Planned, 2023	Factual, 2023	Planned, 2024	Factual, 2024	Change curve*
Growth of the number of open access documents in VU/VU Library information systems and portals	67,40 %	15 %	~50 %	30 %	56,7 %	
Number of people who participated in and were reached through the open science dissemination initiatives of the VU Library	730	500	811	500	1032	
Utilisation of information resources	4,235 million units	3,5 million units	4,507 million units	3,5 million units	4,991 million units	
Number of public events organised by the VU Library	87	80	101	80	85	
Number of manuscripts, books and periodical publications, and conditional pages under category VIII restored and preserved in the VU Library	55 128	80 000	51 394	52 100	52 100	
Number of visits to the physical and virtual library	1 517 814	1 500 000	1 631 477	1 500 000	1 752 672	
Size of digital content produced in gigabytes per year	2584,24 GB	3200 GB	1768,81 GB	1540 GB	1795,9 GB	
Training sessions in academic hours	307	140	261	140	331	

Number of registered readers in the VU Library, 2019–2024

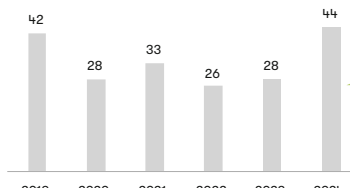


Change in the number of readers in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

8.3 %

Number of publications, 2019–2024

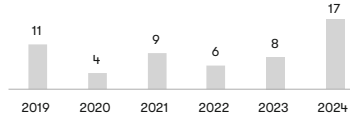
Total number of publications



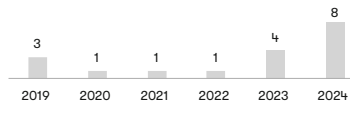
Change in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

40.13 %

of which were articles



of which were published in international and foreign peer-reviewed journals

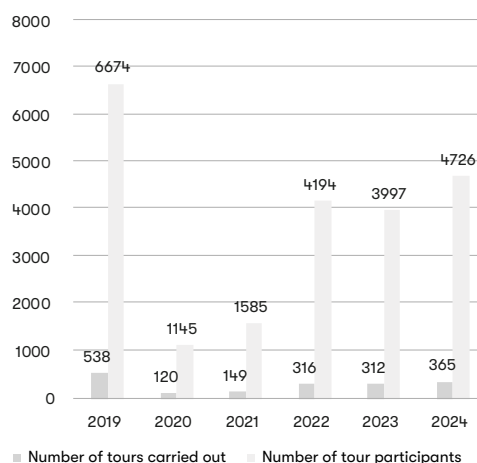


Research promotion, educational and other cultural activities, 2019–2024

Number of educational activities



Number of tours and their participants



Change in the number of tours in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

27.18 %

Change in the number of participants in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023

34.3 %

Projects in 2024

Piliečių mokslo sklaida Vilniaus universitete: specialistų kompetencijų stiprinimas ir tyrėjams teikiamų paslaugų kokybės gerinimas (Dissemination of Citizens' Science at Vilnius University: Enhancement of Specialists' Competences and Improvement of Quality of Services Provided for Researchers)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 56,990.12. The project is funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport under the research development programme (Project No. 10-040-T-0014). Project manager – Dr Gitana Naudužienė.

Leidinio „Iliustruotas vadovas po senąsias Vilniaus spaustuves“ rengimas ir leidyba (Preparation and Publishing of the Publication 'Iliustruotas vadovas po senąsias Vilniaus spaustuves')

The value of the project amounts to EUR 5,000.00. The project is funded by the Lithuanian Council for Culture under the programme 'Atminties institucijos: atminties institucijų veikla' ('Memory Institutions: Activities of Memory institutions') 2024-408-002-11-03-02 (Contract No. (1.78 Mr) SU-2216). Project manager – Nijolė Klingaitė-Dasevičienė

EODOPEN: eBooks-On-Demand-Network

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 104,774.00. The project is funded by the European Union under the Creative Europe programme (Project No. 607666-CREA-1-2019-1-AT-CULT-COOP2). Project manager – Dr Žibutė Petrauskienė.