

## MEK 20. – EPA 10.

– BIRTHDAY MEETING –



*The Hungarian Electronic Library [MEK] celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday and the Electronic Periodical Archive and Database [EPA] its 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 14, 2014, in the reception hall of the National Széchényi Library.*

The „Recommendation” which can be considered the article of association of the MEK gained its last form on November 1, 1994. It determined the collection sphere of the first national digital library and other details of its functioning. The EPA, which records and archives the electronic periodicals and other periodic publications, became an independent special collection and received its own server in August 2004. It is also the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary that the project, which had started out as a private initiative, was incorporated by the NSZL, where it achieved a stable, institutional background as an independent department in September 1999.

Invited by the MEK Association, former and present co-workers, staffers and contributors, directors and volunteers, members of the association, authors, publishers and supporting organizations gathered at the birthday meeting. After the suitable toasts, they listened to a report regarding the conference entitled *Digital medieval age?*, organized on November 7, 2014, as part of the Book Salon in Győr. Here lectures were given about the unsolved status of the national web archiving; about the preservation of scientific publications; about the Hungarian participation in the

*Europeana 1989*; about the collection of digital contents of local knowledge in public libraries; and about the national aggregation of meta-data from museums. This can still be reached on <http://mek.oszk.hu/joomla/index.php/rendezvenyek/214>. The memorial-website created for the double birthday was also presented: <http://mek.oszk.hu/mek20-epa10>, where the enquirer can follow the development of the two digital collection; they can look at their composition, size and attendance on infographics; they can read interesting quotations and stories about the utility and utilization of MEK and EPA; and they can look at pictures and lectures recorded on videos. We can find here flyers and posters created through the years, and the press material written for actions prepared for the jubilee in 2014. The last menu-point is the long but by far not complete list of developers, helpers and supporters.

The friendly reunion was made more colorful by the revival of countless memories pertaining to the beginnings, as well as a literary compilation. The program ended with a tasty snack and conversations – many times between people who, although work together on the widening and the preservation of the Hungarian digital culture for years, they never met before.

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