



Claims Conference ועידת התביעות
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

International Shoah Archivists Working Forum

Participant Information

General Information

Name and address of institution/archive:

Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine (C.D.J.C.)
37 rue de Turenne
75003 Paris - FRANCE

Internet address of web site, if applicable:

memorial-cdjic.org

Brief description of archival collecting scope in regard to the Holocaust (please indicate any focus on specific geographic areas, topics, or time periods):

The persecution of the Jews in Europe, 1933-1945.
The Jewish communities in Europe at the beginning of the century (pogroms, ghettos.); anti-Semitic propaganda; the way of life of the Jewish communities in Europe, 1933-1945; antisemitic legislation in all European countries, aryansisation and plunder of the Jewish properties; arrest, internment of the Jews, creation of the ghettos and concentration camps; the destruction of the European Jewry; the camps, the return of the deportees, the DP camps and the rebuilt of the Jewish community; indemnifications, reparations, the Trials; the Memory of the Shoah (commemoration, survivors's association, hidden children, testimonies...°)until nowadays. The fate of the Jews in France(1920-1950) is specially well documented.

Microfilming and Digitization

Total estimated number of pages of Holocaust-relevant archival records (for purposes of estimating, please assume that 1 meter=10,000 pages and 1 foot=3,000 pages):

6 000 000

Estimated number of pages of original records: 4 000 000

Estimated number of pages of these original records that have been microfilmed:

1 200 000

Estimated number of pages of these original records that have been digitized:

623 000

Estimated number of pages of records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere:

2 000 000

Estimated number of pages of these records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere that are on microfilm:

2 000 000

Estimated number of pages of these records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere that have been digitized: not digitized by the C.D.J.C.

Conservation of Individual Items of Particular Significance

If there are specific original archival materials in your collection that are of major historical significance and of exceptional intrinsic value that are in urgent need of conservation, please list them:

The archives of the E.R.R. Alfred Rosenberg have microfilmed and digitized but should be restored.

If you know of specific original archival materials in collections other than your own that are of major historical significance and of exceptional intrinsic value that are in urgent need of conservation, please list them:

none

Acquisitions

If your archive is actively acquiring Holocaust-relevant archival records, please briefly describe your acquisitions program, including an estimate of the average number of pages acquired annually and the sources for such acquisitions (private donors, other repositories, etc.):

We are still looking for new documents. First, we worked to centralize the archives relating the fate of the Jews from France from 1920 to 1950's. We receive a lot of documents from private donors (personal archives, pictures, artifacts, Jewish organizations, ...). We also acquired microfilms collections of archives kept by other institutions, in France and in the foreign countries (ICRC, Yivo, Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, AJDC, JTS...).

If your archive has an exchange program with other archives, please briefly describe it:

We have partnership with other institutions and specially with the USHMM and the Yad Vashem

Does a list of your institution's microfilming and other acquisitions projects already completed and/or currently in progress exist? If so, in what form is it and how can it be accessed?

We have a list of the archives we already have microfilmed collections
We are conducting a big project with the USHMM in the French departmental archives. Nearly 35 departments have been surveyed and the program should be finished in 2007. We would like to acquire microfilms of documents kept by the Yivo (in cooperation with Yad Vashem), Yad Vashem, the AJDC, the Zionist Archives, the Central archives of the Jewish people, the Leo Baeck Institute

Cataloging

Briefly describe your current cataloging practices:

Since 1997, we used manual files describing our archives's collections then we started to computerized the catalog. We use a software that make us able to describe all kind of documents (paper archives, photo archives, books and periodics). This software support the UNIMARC format and the exchange protocole:Z3950); We had the particularity to make one descriptive catalog entry for one document and with the computerization, we do the same: so the catalog is very precise. We also the possibility to attach the digitalized document to the card that describe it; that is why ¾ of our photo archives are digitalized and also the reason why we are working to digitalized the papers archives. (please see enclosed a sample of our catalog card). The software support also UNICODE, that means that we'll be able to catalog with non-latin alphabet (Yiddish and Hebrew for exemple). We already catalog the title and the summary of the books in yiddish or Hebrew with these alphabets.

For the archives that just arrived in our collection, and before the computerization, we realize a finding aid, very detailed. All these tools are available to the public in our reading room.

Estimated proportion of Holocaust-related collections in your archive that are already adequately cataloged and in what language(s):

The ½ of our collections is cataloged (inventories or database), in French.

Has your archive developed a controlled vocabulary for the cataloging of its collections? If so, please describe briefly. If not, please explain:

We are using a thesaurus. We are actually working on it and, when it will be finished at the end of May, 2004, there will be 3000 terms. The thesaurus will be integrally translated in English.

Are the cataloging records accessible in an electronic format? If so, are they accessible to the public (if the electronic catalog is available on the Internet, please provide the Internet address)?

All the finding aids and the "old" manual card index are accessible to the public I our reading room. For the database, we are actually working on it (production phase) and the electronic catalog will be accessible to the public when the reading room will open in the new "Memorial de la Shoah", January 2005.

Is there more detailed information such as finding aids, survey notes, or other descriptive tools available for the collections in your archive? If so, please describe (if available on the Internet, please provide the Internet address; if not available on the Internet, please attach an example). Is such more detailed information available to the public?

The computerized catalog is the most detailed tool to describe our collections. We have no catalog "on line" for the moment. We are actually working on this project: to put on line our catalog collection. This project is a part of the big work that we are doing on our new internet page.

Accessibility

Briefly describe your current policies regarding access to your collections.

The major part of our archival collection are accessible to the public, except some private archives for which the donors have given special instructions. We are specially careful with archives that mentioned private informations: these archives are communicated with precaution.

Does your archive duplicate archival collections for other repositories? If so, please explain under what circumstances:

Yes. We have recently made copies on demand for USHMM. Yad Vashem have copies of a large part of our collections since several years. We make a cooperative agreement with the repository to establish the rules of communication and reproduction for the documents.