

## **Annual Report from the Consortium of Icelandic Libraries for IGeLU National User group (INUG) 2018**

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The Consortium of Icelandic Libraries is a public limited-liability company. The company is jointly owned by the municipalities and the state of Iceland. Participating libraries pay a service fee depending on size. The consortium operates the following systems and services from Ex Libris: Aleph 500, SFX, Primo, Primo Central Index and bX recommender services. It also operates Sarpur, a cataloging system for museums and cultural heritage institutions in Iceland. The Icelandic User Group for the Aleph libraries is called *Alephi*. It is a formal association that acts as a support for the Consortium of Icelandic Libraries. Due to consortia setup there is just one IGeLU vote for all the consortia libraries.

### **1. Gegnir – The National Library System of Iceland**

Gegnir, [www.gegnir.is](http://www.gegnir.is), is a national library system for Iceland. It serves as a union catalog as well as a library system for about 290 libraries. Among the member institutions are the National and University Library of Iceland, several smaller universities, most public libraries, and primary and secondary schools as well as research and special libraries. Gegnir is a brand for the Aleph software from Ex Libris. The setup is one instance of Aleph500 version 22.1.7, service pack level 2355. The basic structure of the system is one bibliographic catalog and 12 administrative units into which the 290 libraries are grouped.

### **2. Leitir.is - A National Discovery Portal**

Leitir.is, <http://leitir.is> is a locally hosted National Discovery Portal for Iceland. It provides access from a single location to the diverse collections of Icelandic libraries, museums and other institutions. Leitir is a brand for the Primo software from Ex Libris, version 4.9, service pack 13. Access to electronic country-based licenses is provided via the Primo Central Index Service. A recommender service for electronic licenses is provided via the bX recommender Service.

### **3. Sarpur – A National Cataloging System for Museums**

“Sarpur”, <http://www.sarpur.is/>, is an Icelandic designed cultural database. It is used to catalog and record artifacts, pictures, archaeological sites, historic buildings, place names and cultural history, and is used by museums and cultural heritage institutions around Iceland.

## **4. Projects and Activities**

### ***Gegnir (Aleph)***

**VIAF:** Iceland is now a formal member of VIAF. We delivered our data to OCLC in late February this year. The implementation process was very smooth, quick and professional on the behalf of VIAF and our data merged surprisingly well with existing data. The next step is to enrich our authority data with VIAF data.

**RDA - Global changes to legacy files:** In order to finish the transition to RDA, global changes have to be made on the AACR2 bibliographic and authority data. The work is currently in progress and is scheduled to finish later this fall. The main changes are creating the 33x fields based on coding and contents of records, changing abbreviations to full text and when possible to insert relators.

**Tender for a Library System:** In the spring of 2018, the Consortium of Icelandic Libraries issued an invitation to tender for a new library system, including a search and discovery platform (optional). The form of the bidding procedure is a competitive procurement. The new library system will replace the current one, Aleph from Ex Libris. The advertisement can be found on TED, <https://ted.europa.eu/TED/notice/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:227390-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML>. Opening of tenders revealed bids from Ex Libris and Innovative Interfaces. The analysis of the bidding documents is still in process.

The preparations for the making of the procurement documents, in particular the [list of requirements](#), started in September 2017, when the project was officially initiated. Groups of specialists from the member libraries collected requirements regarding loans, patrons, metadata and management of materials, which served as the foundation for the requirement list. In addition to these requirements, a special focus was on requirements such that the system will meet the complex and diverse infrastructure of the Consortium, offer powerful means for integration options and ensure privacy of patrons.

### ***Leitir.is (Primo)***

Last year we reported that the installation of the new UI had been problematic in our sandbox environment. The problems were both with the UI itself and local modifications to the interface. At that time it was our opinion that the interface was rigid and adoptions were difficult to carry out. Now a one year later, the situation has improved but still after 18 months of preparations it is not yet ready. Ex Libris promises that a critical bug (number 4) will be fixed with a hotfix after the August service pack has been installed. These are the main issues with the new UI:

1. Secure web. A general requirement is to have all websites, including Primo, secure or “https”. We set up “https” in version 4.5 but at that time there was limited support for “https” in Primo. In the end we had to exclude a number of webpages in order to get this to work. We succeeded with a good help from Ex Libris. Since then they seem to have changed their guidelines accordingly.
2. Icelandic interface. This issue was raised and discussed with Ex Libris management at the INUG meeting 2017. In our Primo contract it is stipulated that we are to provide Ex Libris with translation in Icelandic and we have done that throughout the years. When we started working on the new Primo UI it became clear, that Ex Libris was not honoring this obligation and translations were supplied by an external company. We did not approve of those. At the meeting Ex Libris promised to correct this. We had a number of conference calls to discuss how this would be carried out. To make a long story short, we provided Ex Libris with the correct translation terms and they promised to make those available in upcoming releases. Unfortunately, it did not happen until this summer. This issue has repeatedly delayed our work on the new UI.
3. In order to get the library staff acquainted with the new UI we set up the link „Display new UI link in classic UI“ where the users of the Icelandic interface jump to the new UI in English. Rather annoying but it will be fixed in the August service pack.
4. During testing we discovered out that interlibrary loan function (against Aleph) in the new UI did not function as does in the old UI. For example it was not possible to place an ILL request for material that was not available in the consortium. After a long analysis period Ex Libris decided to install a hotfix to fix the ILL problems after the August service pack has been applied. First after we have verified that the ILL is working again we will be able to release the new UI to our libraries. Unfortunately, the school term has already started and thus this will affect their staff and students.