# The European Manuscript & Hand Press Book Heritage

## The role of the Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL)

## Manuscript Collection in the National and University Library, Croatia

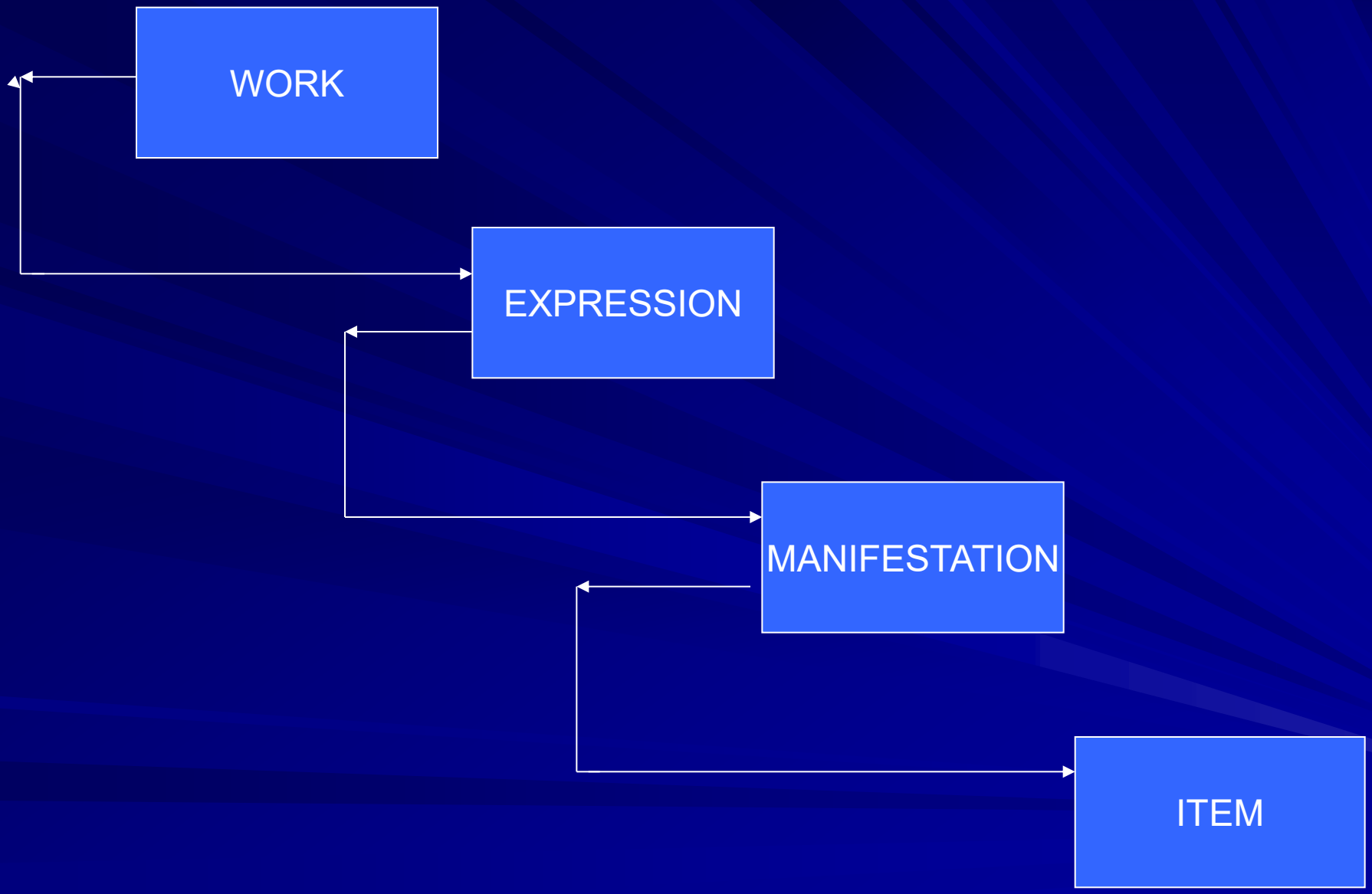
Dubrovnik, 31st May 2007

# IFLA's standards regarding special collections

- older monographic publications (antiquarian) - ISBD (A)
- cartographic material (manuscript as well as printed material) – ISBD (CM)
- printed music publication – ISBD (PM)
- non book materials (manuscripts are not mentioned although they are not explicitely excluded) – ISBD (NBM)
- there is no special and particular standard for manuscript description (ISBD (A) + ISAD (G) within the IFLA's UBC program

# MANUSCRIPT

- a writing made by hand (including musical scores), typescripts, and inscriptions on clay tablets, stone etc. (AACR)
- a handwritten document; an unpublished document; an author's draft of a book, article, or other work submitted for publication
  http://www.archivists.org/glossary


WORK
EXPRESSION
MANIFESTATION
ITEM

# Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (Explanation of the previous scheme)

- work is realized through expression, expression is embodied in manifestation, manifestation is exemplified by item, or (from the reverse direction): expression is a realization of a work, manifestation is the embodiement of an expression, item is a single exemplar of a manifestation

- citation: “It should be noted that although the relationship between *work*, *expression*, *manifestation*, and *item* are depicted in the entity-relationship diagram in a segmented way, they operate logically as a continuous chain. That is to say that the relationship from *work* to *expression* carries through to the relationship from *expression* to *manifestation*, and those two relationships subsequently carry through to the relationship from *manifestation* to *item*.” (page 60)

# Further explanation

- according to FRBR schema manuscript is manifestation of a work, that is to say: “As an entity, *manifestation* represents all the physical objects that bear the same characteristics, in respect to both intellectual content and physical form” (page 20)
- placing manuscripts within the schema included in the study *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* determines their status in the MARC format; then the relations between the entities influence the creation of the record(s) and the relationships between single records

# UNIMARC, MARC21

- MARC 21 in comparison with UNIMARC enables us to code different levels of archival description (collection level, subunit level, even a single piece of item – one letter, e. g.) and to make particular record for every level; connection between hierarchical levels is not necessary

# Manuscript cataloguing

➔elements of description common to all types of manuscripts: heading, title, notes, content description

# Manuscript description

| Elements of description | ISBD | MARC 21 |
|---|---|---|
| heading | | 100 |
| title | Title and statement of responsibility area | Fields 20x-24x |
| ---------- | Publication, distribution etc. area | Field 260 |
| notes | Physical description area + Note area | Fields 3xx<br>Fields 5xx |

# Manuscripts and Rare Books Collection (National and University Library of Zagreb)

- specific and diversified within itself
- three scripts of Croatian literacy throughout centuries (Glagolitic, Cyrillic, Latin script) including other scripts such as Arabian and Hebrew
- languages: Croatian (with its three dialects: čakavian, kajkavian, štokavian), Latin, Hungarian, German etc.
- includes **codices** as well as of prominent persons' **legacies** and archives of important institutions, **whole single manuscripts** as well as **fragments**

# How to find out the proper system and unique algorithm for the description?

- to dispose of different tools for different materials (to describe one single manuscript is not the same as to describe manuscript or archival collection)
- to develop one specialized and specific system that would be appropriate only for manuscript description (Czech experience with MASTER which is based on XML)

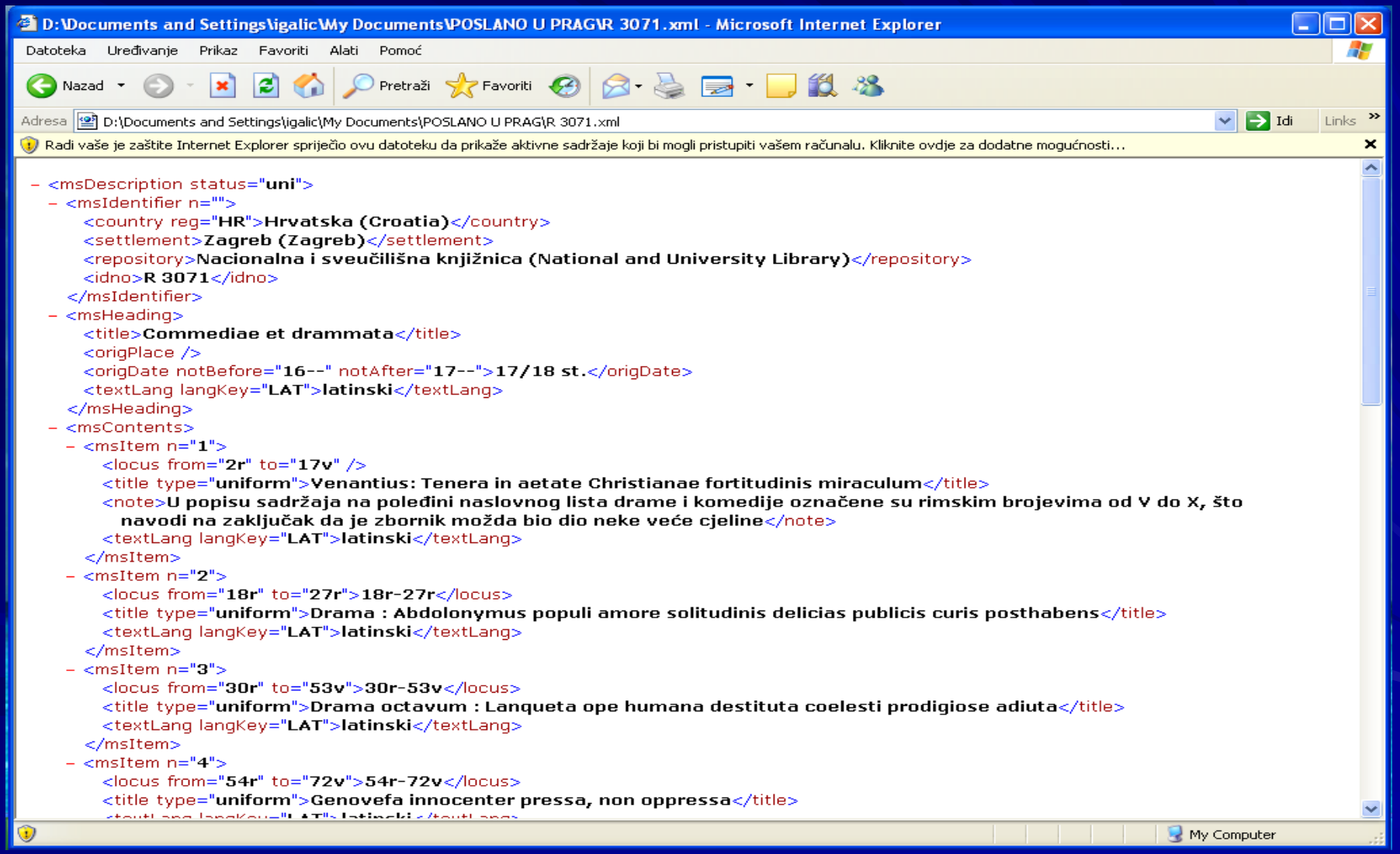
# Archival and bibliographic description

- archival description and bibliographic description
- → both require the same elements (author (creator), title, dates, extent and contents) but those elements are not organized in the same way; in the archival description as well as in the manuscript description [which is not based on a title page] we are sometimes obliged and forced to supply additional information which can be found outside of the fond or collection being described

# MARC and XML

- MARC: data contents standard: physical description on summary level, there are no fields specialized for manuscript content description
- XML: data structure standard, capable to distinguish between different data types (datable elements, phrase level elements etc.), it consists of elements; elements contain their attributes - elements can contain other elements; XML enables both: content and physical description of the manuscript

# One example of the XML record



# Possible solution?

- useful direction of thinking: to create MARC records according to the study Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Record → AACR

  http://www.loc.gov/marc/marc-functionalanalysis/source/table1notes.pdf

- to prefer XML to MARC format (it is possible to convert MARC to XML)