

QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Country:

Poland

Organization(s) or entity (s) responsible for the preparation of the report:

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

Officially designated contact person/institution:

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

Name(s) of designated official(s) certifying the report:

Deputy Director of Monuments Protection Department Dr Magdalena Marcinkowska

Brief description of the consultation process established for the preparation of the report:

The report was prepared in consultation with the Head Office of State Archives, the Central Archives of Historical Records, the National Library and the Polish National Commission for UNESCO.

REPORTING ON THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION:

General support:

1. Has the Recommendation been promulgated to appropriate ministries and institutions?

(Section 1)

In June 2016 the Recommendation was submitted to competent national authorities in accordance with Article IV, par. 4 of UNESCO Constitution. In addition, the Recommendation has been made available via the Internet to all stakeholders interested in the issues of preservation and access to documentary heritage, including in digital form. The brochure in PDF format has been posted on the website of the Head Office of State Archives (see question 2).

2. Has the Recommendation been translated into the national language(s) (if applicable)?

Yes. The Head Office of State Archives and the Polish National Commission for UNESCO had translated the Recommendation, and in 2016 a brochure, including a Polish version was published. The printed version of the brochure was disseminated in 2016 i.a. on the occasion of

the ceremony of the 2nd edition of Polish National Register of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme.

3. Has your country created a supportive, participatory, enabling and stable environment for all parties? (1. 1, 1.2, 3. 1, 4.5, 5. 1, 5.2)

Poland has created a supportive environment for memory institutions introducing legal frameworks of their autonomous status. Provisions of Polish law system guarantee sustainability and independence of memory institutions' activity (see also questions 4-8, 15,16,18). For instance the National Library, in performance of its statutory duties, collects, compiles, makes available and archives for long-term accessibility library materials, concerning Poland, that have been created home and abroad. The National Library keeps its catalogues and makes available bibliographic materials in a fully open and accessible manner, and the metadata generated in the National Library are published in a manner that ensures both individual and fully automated access using IT tools.

4. How, if at all, has your country applied international standards and curatorial best practice (2.4, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 4.2, 5. 1, 5.2, 5.5)?

Polish memory institutions apply international standards, guidelines and recommendations for individual segments of culture. Part of these - such as ISO standards - are translated into the local language and approved by the Polish Committee of Standardization as the binding versions, while other documents such as guidelines of the International Council on Archives on exhibiting archival materials are published in the form of brochures (Rules for exhibiting archival materials: guidelines of the International Council on Archives: collective work by the ICA Committee for Preservation of Archives in Temperate Climates, Warszawa: BN, 2008. ISBN 978-83-7009-737-0).

Currently, work is in progress to introduce the standard ISO 11799:2015E Information and documentation – Document storage requirements for archive and library material – as a Polish Standard. The introduction of the standard regarding the storage conditions for archival and library materials will enable updating the current ISO PL/11799/2006 standard.

Based on international standards and recommendations, internal documents are prepared, e.g. the “Archive Building - guidelines for participants of the construction investment process”, developed by the Head Office of State Archives in 2017. The National Library implements both international standards on handling of library materials and good practices in this regard.

5. What consultation mechanisms does the government maintain with stakeholders in the documentary heritage sector (national and private memory institutions, professional associations, relevant NGOs)? (1.2)

National memory institutions cooperate with consultative councils composed of experts, representatives of the world of culture and science, and activists of NGOs related to a specific subject. Consultative councils operate at the Minister of Culture and National Heritage or are organized directly at the institutions.

The Archival Board is an advisory and consultative body at the General Director of State Archives in matters falling within its sphere of activity. Members at the current term of office are i.a.: representatives of Association of Polish Archivists, Association of Justice Archivists, Polish Historical Society, Ecclesiastical Archivists Association.

The National Library Council in accordance with art. 7 of the Act on Libraries of 27 June 1997 (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 574, as amended) operates at the minister competent for matters of culture and national heritage. Council members are i. a.: two representatives of scientific circles indicated by the minister competent for science and three representatives of librarian and creative circles.

6. What actions has your country taken in order to support memory institutions in establishing policies and standards by research and consultation, guided by internationally established norms? (1. 1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2)

Poland finances the organization of scientific conferences and meetings of experts as well as Polish memory institutions' participation in international cooperation abroad that serve the exchange of experiences, broadening the knowledge of employees of the memory institutions.

7. What major capacity-building measures and policies have taken place within the sector? Is research and training for documentary heritage professionals organized in your country? How often? (2.4, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 5.1, 5.2)

Professionals gain education and skills in the system of master's degree courses and postgraduate studies in the field of archive keeping and documentation management, scientific information and library science, as well as conservation and restoration of manuscripts, historical prints and graphics.

State archives pro-actively cooperate with universities, both by providing professor-level staff and pursuing joint projects. The Head Office of State Archives and its subordinated archives

are also involved in developing cooperation with many partners abroad. These contacts are based on bilateral agreements which provide a framework for joint scientific projects, exchange of professional staff and experiences as part of internships, training programmes, scholarships, and the organization of international conferences on current archive-related problems. Publications, such as peer-reviewed periodical “Archeion”, play important role in research and capacity building activities of the Head Office of State Archives.

The National Library conducts scientific research in the field of its competences, and provides internships for students of scientific information and library science departments. The results of research conducted by the National Library employees are published in its journals covered by the peer-review system: “Rocznik Biblioteki Narodowej”, “Notes konserwatorski” and the English-language one “Polish Libraries”.

Legislation and mandates:

8. What legislation does your country have in place to:

. define the authority, mandate, independence and governance structure of your national memory institutions? (3. 1, 4.5)

The authority, mandate, and governance structure of the memory institutions, including, but not limited to, state archives, museums, libraries – are laid down in statutes (Acts of the Parliament). Legislative acts at the statute level also ensure these institutions enjoy freedom to act in safeguarding documentary heritage.

- With regard to state archives, this is the Act of 14 July 1983 on the National Archival Resources and State Archives (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 217, as amended). Pursuant to the Act, state archives are report to the General Director of State Archives, which is the central body of government administration in matters of the state archival resources, appointed by the Prime Minister, at the request of the minister competent for culture and preservation of national heritage.
- With regard to museums, this is the Act of 21 November 1996 on Museums (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 720, as amended).
- With regard to libraries, this is the Act of 27 June 1997 on Libraries (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 574, as amended) establishing the legal framework for the operation of the National Library Council and defining the role of the National Library as the central

library of the state and other public libraries. Moreover, the Act defines a nationwide network of libraries, within which public libraries are obliged to cooperate with each other. The Regulation of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of 4 July 2012 on the National Library Resources (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 797, as amended) defines, among others, criteria for including library collections in the national library resources.

. guarantee the ability of memory institutions to take unhindered preservation action on documents in their collections? (3.5 to 3.7)

The Act of 14 July 1983 on the National Archival Resources and State Archives imposes an obligation on state archives to safeguard the archival materials held. This is one of the basic duties of the archives.

The storage and preservation of library materials are among the basic duties of libraries in accordance with the The Act of 27 June 1997 on Libraries (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 574, as amended). Collections having an exceptional value and significance for national heritage constitute, in whole or in part, a national library resource that is subject to special protection. The procedure for handling the national library resources is governed by the Regulation of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of 4 July 2012 (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 797, as amended).

. promote and facilitate maximum inclusive access by empowering memory institutions? (3.2)

The Act of 14 July 1983 on the National Archival Resources and State Archives strives to ensure the widest possible access to archival materials, granting any person the right of access (Article 16a (1)). Any refusal to make a material available is possible only in cases provided by law. The reasons for restrictions may only be those specified in Article 16b of the Act on the National Archival Resources and State Archives, namely: protection of classified information and other secrets protected by law, personal rights and personal data, as well as physical condition of archival materials, which makes it impossible to make them available due to the preservation of their integrity. Moreover, certain types of documentation may be available after a strictly defined number of years have passed (Article 16b (2)).

The Act of 27 June 1997 on Libraries (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 574, as amended) imposes the duty on Polish libraries to organize and provide access to the resources of the Polish and world scientific and cultural heritage.

. support memory institutions providing access to material whose copyright status cannot be clarified? (3.5 to 3.7)

With regard to archival materials, the limitations due to economic copyrights do not apply to making these available under the principle of permitted public use (Article 28 (1) of the Act on Copyright and Related Rights of 4 February 1994 (as amended)). The Act on Copyright and Related Rights also includes provisions regarding the handling of orphan works.

. ensure statutory deposit of documents in memory institutions? (4. 6)

The Act of 14 July 1983 on the National Archival Resources and State Archives imposes the duty on entities producing archival materials to transfer them to the locally competent state archive, and specifies the procedure for and time limit of the transfer. The Act also sets out the procedure that applies in cases where an entity ceases its activities, and introduces a ban on selling archival materials that constitute the state archive resources.

The Act of 7 November 1996 on Mandatory Library Copies (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 545) imposes specific duties on publishers, concerning the transfer of works, and duties on libraries concerning the collection of publishing heritage.

9. Has government net funding of national memory institutions (in recent years) increased or decreased? By how much? (4. 1)

The budget of the main national memory institutions, being part of the state budget, increased in 2015-2017 by 11 percent. Among others:

- the State Archives: in 2015, 36 million EURO was spent from budgetary funds; in 2017, 40 million EURO were spent.
- the National Library: in 2015, 23 million EURO was spent from budget funds, and 25million EURO was spent in 2017.
- the new memory institution - Center for Research on Totalitarianism Witold Pilecki - has been established in 2016, with the budget of 1,5 milion EURO in 2017. In 2018 a new scientific institute has been established - Pilecki Institute (PI) – former Centre for Research on Totalitarianism Witold Pilecki with a budget of 18 milion EURO. The mission of the PI is to preserve the memory and to document and research the historical experiences of Polish citizens in the 20th century. Aim of PI is to facilitate an interdisciplinary and international reflection on key issues of this epoch concerning the two totalitarianisms. The Institute not only deals with the documentary heritage as such,

but also supports scholarship, and through a host of educational projects and events combining culture and history works to disseminate knowledge about the previous century.

10. What long term investment in analogue and digital documentary preservation has been made? (4. 1)

Examples are:

On 28 December 2010, the General Director of State Archives announced the State Archives Strategy for 2010-2020, which among its strategic objectives provides for ensuring proper conditions for the collection and permanent storage of archival resources in traditional and digital form. This objective is planned to be achieved through upgrading and extending the archival infrastructure, capable of providing appropriate and safe conditions for both the existing and successively acquired documentation. It will also enable enriching the archives' offer in the fields of educational, exhibition and raising awareness activities.

The National Library purchased equipment for mass de-acidification of endangered documentary heritage, and puts it into use on a large scale in preservation of materials in paper form. Moreover, it has organized and operates the Digital Repository of the National Library, a place for long-term storage of digital files, both produced by the National Library as part of the digitization of collections and sourced from beneficiaries of programs financed by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

While strongly associated with access to and promotion of the analogue documentary heritage, digitization is also an important means of improving conditions for its long-term preservation. In the years 2017-2020, the National Library together with the Jagiellonian Library operate the programme "Patrimonium - digitization and provision of access to the Polish national heritage from the collections of the National Library and the Jagiellonian Library". The implementation of the project will allow for a significant progress, in terms of quantity and quality, in remote access via the Internet to the most valuable and oldest resources of Polish literature. These will be made available via the most advanced Polish digital library POLONA. The digitization process covers documents sourced from cartographic, musical and iconographic collections, as well as magazines, brochures, manuscripts, historic prints and books from the 19th and 20th centuries. Part of them are subject to special protection for conservation reasons and are not available for everyday access. The complete digitization process will cover a total of over one million materials: 652 thousand from the resources of the National Library and 348 thousand

from the collections of the Jagiellonian Library. Owing to the project, all these works will be widely available to any internet user. The project is co-financed by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund under the Operational Programme Digital Poland 2014-2020 and subsidized by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

11. What encouragement has been given in the development of open source software and access to proprietary codes by memory institutions? (4.7, 4.8)

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage has begun analysis of legal provisions in order to check opportunities to introduce incentives concerning development of open source software and access to proprietary codes by memory institutions. The results of the analysis should be known in the first half of 2019.

Identification and preservation status of documentary heritage

12. Do all national memory institutions have published collection development, preservation and access policies? Are there in your country established policies, mechanisms and criteria for selecting, acquiring and de-selecting documentary heritage? What policies have been developed recently? (1. 1)

The Act of 14 July 1983 on the National Archival Resources and State Archives and the executive acts issued on its basis govern the criteria and rules for selecting and acquiring materials, as well as the rules for de-selecting documentation, which has not been classified as archival material. Documents classified as archival material are preserved permanently.

There is, announced by General Director of State Archives, the State Archives Strategy for 2010-2020, which among its strategic objectives provides for ensuring proper conditions for the collection and permanent storage of archival resources in traditional and digital form.

The basis for creating a complete archive of national literature was the right granted to the National Library in 1927 to receive free copies of all publications intended for distribution, published in the then territory of Poland. Pursuant to the Act on Mandatory Library Copies of 7 November 1996 (as amended) and the Regulation of the Minister of Culture and Art of 6 March 1997 on the List of Libraries Entitled to Receive Mandatory Copies Of Particular Types of Publications and the Rules and Procedure for their Transfer, and to its amending Regulation of 24 May 1999, the National Library receives two copies of all publications published in Poland: books, magazines, newspapers, music prints, atlases, maps and brochures documenting social life, as well as sound, audiovisual and electronic documents. Under the legal regulations

concerning mandatory copies, the basic purposes of archiving the same are the preservation of cultural heritage, compilation of national bibliography and preparation of publishing statistics. A mandatory copy is treated as a component of national heritage.

13. What documentary heritage has been identified as at potential or imminent risk (if any)? What action has been taken? Was it brought to the attention of competent bodies? (1.3, 2.7, 5.5)

One of the biggest threats to archival materials is the process of natural ageing of various types of media. Materials on non-durable carriers are subject to preservation in the first place. These are preserved, besides conservation measures, by digitization and sharing of copies (scans) of the materials with the highest degree of destruction.

14. What arrangements are in place to protect the documentary heritage from danger? (5.4)

The broad definition of documentary heritage allows us to qualify selected immovable and movable monuments that have the value of an information carrier. According to the Article 88. (1) of Act of 23 July 2003 on the protection of monuments and guardianship of monuments (Journal of Laws of 2018 No 2067) the minister competent for culture and protection of national heritage shall prepare the national programme of protection of monuments in the event of armed conflict or crisis situation and shall coordinate the implementation of actions aimed at securing monuments against threats resulting from the crisis situations.

According to paragraph 1 of Regulation of the Minister of Culture on the organization and manner of protection of monuments in the event of armed conflict and crisis situations of 25 August 2004 (Journal of Laws No. 212, item 2153) protection of monuments, in the event of armed conflict and crisis situations, involves planning, preparation and implementation of preventive, documentary, security, rescue and rescue projects of conservation, saving them [monuments] from destruction, damage or disappearance

Work is currently under way on the adoption of the national programme of protection of monuments in the event of armed conflict or crisis situation. The introduction of the program is planned in 2019.

According to paragraph 4 of Regulation of the Minister of Culture on the organization and manner of protection of monuments in the event of armed conflict and crisis situations of 25 August 2004 (Journal of Laws No. 212, item 2153) local government authorities and regional

government authorities shall adopt, respectively, municipal, district or regional programmes of protection of monuments in the event of armed conflict or crisis situation. Nowadays, many municipalities and regions obtain those programmes.

In 2002, Poland joined the Blue Shield Program. In recent years Polish Committee of The Blue Shield Program was engaged in several events concerning the protection of documentary heritage.

15. What practical support has been given to private, local and individual collections of documentary heritage? Are they visible in national directories? (1.3, 4.3)

Since 2016, the General Director of State Archives has been organizing competitions for entities holding archival assets of non-state origin (i.e. “social archives”). As part of the competition, entities are granted financial support for works related to the organization, description and conservation of archival assets held. The amount of approximately PLN 900,000 is earmarked for this purpose annually.

Since 2017, an Advisory Group has been operating at the General Director of State Archives, supporting the activities of church and monastic archives (of the Catholic Church, having the largest non-state owned archives in Poland). The tasks of the Group include, among others, developing principles for collecting, record keeping and compiling archival materials in church archives in accordance with the theory of archive keeping and international standards, preparing a catalogue of good practices in the provision of information on the church archives and archival materials they store, giving opinions on new regional ventures and projects undertaken by state archives and church archives, monitoring and driving cooperation between state archives and church archives.

Capacity-building

16. What specific steps have been taken to encourage consistency of best practice, coordination and sharing of tasks among memory institutions? (2. 1, 2.7)

Examples are:

With regard to digitization, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage has created 5 competence centres, each of which specializes in the digitization of a specific type of resources: National Library (library resources), National Heritage Board (monuments), National Film Archive - Audiovisual Institute (audiovisual resources), National Digital Archives (archival resources), National Institute for Museums and Public Collections (museum resources).

The establishment of competence centres allowed for comprehensive implementation of technological changes related to digitization and storage of digital data, coherent coordination in the collection and storage of digital resources, implementation of consistent standards and education of cultural institutions personnel in charge of digitization.

The State Archives have developed uniform practices in specific areas. Contributing to this are the normative acts, recommendations and guidelines issued by the General Director of State Archives, which are applicable to its reporting units, including:

- as regards digitization, a strategy for the digitization of state archival resources for 2018-2023, aiming i.a. to expand the digital accessibility of state archive resources, provide options for re-use of state archive resources, build the brand of state archives as institutions providing sources of knowledge, provide digital access to archival materials, regardless of the form and type of the original, and support the indefinite storage of archival materials,

- since 2016, a Programme for retroconversion of archive aids, the objective of which is to digitize traditional finding aids from paper form to a digital database and make them available on the Internet,

- in 2012, regulation on the principles of cooperation between state archives and mass conservation studios operating in the network of archives, to facilitate the process of de-acidification of documents stored in archives,

- drafting of regulations regarding the access to archival materials, contributing to their amendment in 2016; at the same time, with a view to unifying the rules for making available archival materials in the network of archives, the General Director issued an ordinance on the organization of access to archival materials in state archives (Ordinance No. 24 of 18 May 2017).

The Competence Centre operating at the National Library for the digitization library materials has prepared and published the “Digitization of Literature” manual covering the entire digitization process.

17. What training schemes have been developed? (1.5)

The State Archives: In Poland, there is a system of education for archivists as part of master’s degree courses in archive keeping and documentation management, as well as postgraduate studies. Moreover, additional training courses for skills development are organized within the network of archives. Competence centres train institution staff in the field of digitization.

Example regarding the National Library:

The Competence Centre operating in the National Library for the digitization of library materials publishes updates of previously prepared descriptions of good digitalization practices, and provides expert support to institutions that digitize library materials in the form of telephone and e-mail consultations, as well as training.

18. What is the level of involvement of national memory institutions in international professional associations and networks? (2.8, 2.9)

The General Director of State Archives cooperates with the management boards of archives from 29 countries from Europe and Asia, in delivering on commitments towards foreign partners arising from signed agreements. As part of the cooperation, state archives throughout Poland organise visits of professionals from other countries, lectures and demonstrations of archival materials, and exchange of experiences over ongoing issues in the operation of archives.

The General Director of State Archives cooperates with international archive societies from the European Union and the International Council on Archives. Among others, in recent years the Director participated in the work programmes and meetings of: The European Board of National Archivists (EBNA), the European Archives Group (EAG), as well as meetings of the European Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (EURBICA) and the Eurasia Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (18th General Conference of EURASICA).

The National Library conducts bilateral cooperation with numerous institutions abroad, ensuring the protection of valuable heritage resources outside of Poland, such as the Archives of the “Kultura” Literary Institute in Maison Lafitte in France and the archives of the writer Gustaw Herling-Grudziński in Naples. The National Library also participates in the work programmes of international organizations such as the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA; including WLIC 2017 in Wrocław, Poland, co-organised by the National Library), European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA).

An IFLA-accredited Preservation and Conservation Centre for digital preservation and digital sustainability operates at the National Library. It carries out, among others, activities to raise awareness on protection and conservation in the field of library science among Central and

Eastern European institutions responsible for cultural heritage collections, and activities aimed at promoting and disseminating best practices in the field of protection and conservation of collections. The staff of the National Library also take part in the work programmes of international bodies, congresses and conferences, both internationally and domestically.

19. Are there partnerships, including public-private ones, established allowing sharing of costs, facilities and services? (2.2, 3.4, 4.2)

In Poland, formal public-private partnerships are not practised in this area, cooperation between public institutions and private sector being funded rather on the public orders law. A form of supporting private stakeholders and non-governmental organizations is the *Digital Culture* subsidy programme of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage. The programme is intended i.a. for NGOs, which could receive co-financing for sharing tasks and re-use of digital cultural resources.

Memory of the World Programme

20. Is there in your country a national Memory of the World committee? If not, what plans exist to establish one? (4. 10, 5.6)

Yes, there is one. The Polish Memory of the World Programme Committee was established in 1996, and is composed of representatives of largest Polish libraries, archives, academic community and the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, and chaired by the General Director of State Archives.

The Committee undertakes activities aimed at preserving and making available Polish documentary heritage. The Committee members, in consultation with the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, national heritage institutions and experts, participate in nominating Polish documentary heritage for inscription on the Memory of the World International Register.

Moreover, the Polish Committee initiated, in order to more effectively preserve and raise awareness on Polish heritage, the establishment of the Memory of the World Programme National Register, constituting a list of a variety of documents valuable for Polish history and culture. So far, three editions of the UNESCO Memory of the World Programme Polish National Register have been held (in 2014, 2016 and 2018), as a result of which 43 items with a special historical value, kept in Polish archives, libraries and museums, have been inscribed on the Register.

The Polish Memory of the World Programme Committee initiates and provides expert support for Poland's participation in the international activities of the Programme. In the recent years, Poland was particularly active in the work on the Recommendation at all stages, initiating or contributing to resolutions of the General Conference and decisions of the UNESCO Executive Board, organizing meetings of experts and participating in consultations over its content.

21. What recent nominations have been made to Memory of the World registers (international, regional, national)? (1.4)

Currently, 17 items of documentary heritage reported by Poland in the years 1999-2017 are inscribed on the Memory of the World International Register. In 2017, three items were inscribed on the Memory of the World International Register: The Act of the Union of Lublin from 1569 (a joint Polish-Belarusian-Lithuanian-Latvian-Ukrainian nomination); The Jürgen Stroop's Report; Documents of Polish radio intelligence from the period of the Battle of Warsaw in August 1920.

In 2018, 21 items have been inscribed on Polish National Register of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme

1. **[Józef Pawlikowski] *Czy Polacy wybić się mogą na niepodległość? (Can Poles win their independence?) (1800;* a unique copy of the first edition of the famous political brochure, kept in the National Library in Warsaw);**
2. **Stefan Żeromski *Przedwiośnie (First Spring;* bound manuscript, autograph (around 1921–1924), kept in the National Library in Warsaw);**
3. **The Cracow Scientific Society as the beginning of the Polish Academy of Learning (1815-1872-1918;** a unique testimony to the history of Polish science, kept in the Science Archive of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Learning in Cracow);
4. **The resolution of the joint parliament chambers regarding the introduction of the national cockade, Warsaw, 7th February 1831** (the first Polish legal act regulating the issue of national colours, kept at the Historical and Literary Society of the Polish Library in Paris);
5. **Henryk Sienkiewicz *Trylogia (Trilogy) – autographs of the novels *Ogniem i mieczem (With Fire and Sword)*, *Potop (The Deluge)*, *Pan Wołodyjowski (Colonel Wolodyjowski)*, (1882–1888;*** written “To kindle hope”. kept at the Ossoliński National Institute in Wrocław);
6. **The decree of the Regency Council regarding the protection of monuments of art and culture, (31st October 1918;** the first Polish legal act regulating the issue of monument protection, kept in the New Records Archive in Warsaw);
7. **A poster “Regency Council to the Polish Nation!” (Warsaw, 11th November 1918;** documenting the moment Józef Piłsudski took over power being a key moment in the process of regaining independence by Poland, kept in the National Library in Warsaw);

8. **Records collection – the Supreme National Committee, ([1911] 1914–1920 [1930]);** how the Polish Legions were created and operated to regain and preserve Poland's independence, kept in the National Archive in Cracow);
9. **Documentation of the Polish Military Organisation, (1914–1920;** history of a Polish secret military organisation of key importance for regaining the independence during WW1, kept in the Military Historical Office of the Central Military Archive)
10. **Files of the Polish National Department, (1917–1918;** Polonia, i.e, the Polish diaspora, in the fight for independence, files kept in the Polish Museum in America and in the Museum of Romanticism in Opinogóra);
11. **Files of the Adjutancy General of the Commander in Chief, (1918–1922;** kept in the Józef Piłsudski Institute in America);
12. **Documents of the Wielkopolska Uprising (1918-1919;** kept in the National Archive in Poznań, in the Museum of the History of the City of Poznań, a branch of the National Museum in Poznań);
13. **Atlas, map and manuscripts of Eugeniusz Romer related to his activities of shaping Poland's borders, (1916–1920;** kept in the Jagiellonian University Library in Cracow);
14. **The Peace Treaty of Riga between Poland, Russia and Ukraine signed on 18th March 1921** (a document which closes the period of re-establishing the borders of Polish state, kept in the Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs);
15. **Commemorative act of the taking over of Upper Silesia by the Government of the Republic of Poland, signed on 16th July 1922 in Katowice** (a memorandum of incorporation of Upper Silesia into Poland, kept in the State Archives in Katowice);
16. **Posters from the period of the Polish-Soviet war (1919–1920;** a unique collection of posters by outstanding artists, kept in the Poster Museum in Wilanów, a branch of the National Museum in Warsaw);
17. **Polonia Restituta – a film (1928;** original title: Polonia Restituta 1918–1920, kept in the National Film Archive of the Audiovisual Institute (FINA) and in the National Digital Archive);
18. **The Polish currency unit – złoty (a set of coins, pattern coins and banknote templates, [1919]–1924;** revival of the złoty as national currency, kept in the National Bank of Poland);
19. **Documents related to the construction of the port in Gdynia, (1921–1927;** kept in the New Records Archive in the Museum of the City of Gdynia);
20. **Dispatches of the Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Poland in Bern from 1940-1945** (unique documents of a wide, long-term action of rescuing Jews from the Holocaust by Polish Diplomatic Mission in Switzerland, kept in the New Records Archive in Warsaw);
21. **Draft of the Decree on Electoral Law (passed) to Legislative Sejm, published in the Journal of the Polish Laws No 18 item 46 dated 6 December, 1918** (full voting rights for women, documents kept in the New Records Archive in Warsaw).

22. Are there any Memory of the World outreach and visibility activities organized in your country enhancing accessibility of documentary heritage? Please give examples. (3.7)

Information about the Memory of the World Programme is available on the Internet on dedicated websites, including the Polish National Commission for UNESCO

(<http://www.unesco.pl/komunikacja-i-informacja/pamiec-swiata/>) and the Head Office of State Archives/ Polish Memory of the World Committee (<https://pamiecpolski.archiwa.gov.pl/pamiec-swiata/>).

Creation of registers of items of particular importance for individual countries is a particularly efficient form of outreach and visibility activities addressing decision makers and broader audience. The Polish National Register of UNESCO Memory of the World Programme was inaugurated in Warsaw, in 2014; items are inscribed on the National Register every two years (cf. above, q. 20). The Polish Register's every edition is accompanied by celebrations and exhibitions (with media interest) in Warsaw and in different locations in the country, especially those related to the inscribed objects. The inscriptions of objects of Polish documentary heritage on the international Register have similar effect.

The Memory of the World Programme visibility among decision-makers and professional circles was significantly strengthened by international meetings under the Programme organized in Poland. These included the 1st and 6th Meeting of the International Advisory Committee (Pułtusk 1993, Gdańsk 2003), the 4th International Conference of the MoW Programme "Memory, Culture, Identities" (Warsaw 2011), and expert meetings convened by UNESCO in Warsaw to propose measures to strengthen the Programme (in 2012) and to facilitate the elaboration of the text of the Recommendation on the preservation of and access to documentary heritage including in digital form (in 2014).