

FISCAL POLICY OF EMU IN SERBIAN ACADEMIC LIBRARIANSHIP

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31410/EMAN.2018.254>

Abstract: *This paper concentrates on the materials of Serbian academic libraries which refer to the fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union. The aim of this paper is to illustrate the potentials of Serbian academic librarianship in this domain. The academic libraries of Serbia have their users who are either students or researchers, professors or other citizens who fulfill the conditions for membership in the library if they are interested in using the collections. An empirical and a statistical method are used for writing this paper. The theoretical framework for this paper is not just the economic one, it is also a library and information one including the international standards for bibliographic description of library materials. The author of this paper has in mind contemporary tendencies in the fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union.*

Serbian academic librarianship, although with certain current problems, may contribute a great deal to the development of scientific thought in the domain of financial theory and policy. It is due to its useful pieces of advice. Except this, an interlibrarian loan service with abroad that is being developed by the „Svetozar Marković“ University Library shows a clear orientation towards an international collaboration particularly with the countries of Europe. All the phases in the activity of this and similar institutions require an information literacy, language skills and professional knowledge in order to acquire literature, catalogue and classify it, and lend to library users in the field of economics, law as well as in all other sciences.

The nature of contemporary librarianship is international. Serbia participates in the process of knowledge globalization due to its completing of collections in order to stimulate human resources development, in paper form and in the electronic one. The entrepreneurial learning today is getting more and more actual. As far as the fiscal policy in an international framework is concerned, it would be useful to get familiar with the opportunities of a contemporary academic librarianship in such a European country which tends to be closer to the European Union not just through undertaking economic and legal measures but also by completing its own library collections. This includes the implementation of the international standards in library and information activity as well as up-dating the content of digital repositories unavoidably including those works which refer to the fiscal problems in the external environment of Serbia.

The author of this text published several papers in the academic librarianship which goes in for economic topics.⁸⁵ During her professional experience of 25 years in Serbian academic librarianship she was facing the requirements of present and future experts for finances, present and future economists of different orientations. The libraries in Serbia perform their activity with different degree of public work. Central library of the University of Belgrade e.g. The „Svetozar Marković“ University Library has a high degree of public work.⁸⁶ Faculty libraries are open mostly because of those persons who are employed or study at the faculty. The use of a library is determined by the normative act of the institution it belongs to. As far as a faculty library is concerned it should be emphasized that it is an organizational unit within the faculty. When we talk on the „Svetozar Marković“ University Library, for example, we should know

⁸⁴ The „Svetozar Marković“ University Library, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

⁸⁵ One of them is *The Linguistic structure of economic materials in Serbian academic libraries. Navigating through COBISS*, Belgrade, Svet knjige, 2016, format A4, 115 p. / by Vesna Župan. (CD edition) (Serbian; Latin letter)

⁸⁶ www.unilib.rs (Access 09.11.2017.)

that it is an organizational unit within the University of Belgrade. It has been long the central university library for the state universities in Serbia.

Key words: *fiscal policy, EMU, Serbian academic librarianship*

1. Introduction

Libraries are the institution which share the destiny of the economy. Their future depends on the inflow from the state budget because they are mostly non for profit institutions. Except that, an academic librarianship follows the development of the economic profession and tends to get adjusted to the expectations of library users. Libraries are established because of them and they perform their tasks in accordance with normative acts.

If fiscal policy is the way of forming taxes because of creating public incomes on one side and public expenditures on the other one with the intention to overcome the contrasts in an economic cycle and maintain full employment decreasing maximally inflation and deflation, it would be very important for the creators of fiscal policy to have an access to the e-resources which refer to this domain. The academic librarianship is a domain which goes in for these resources preparing an access for the needs of users. Except that, academic libraries are those who give services to the users in the form of instructions indispensable for retrieving e-resources of professional and scientific information and materials, and then overtaking the materials in different forms.

The libraries in Serbia perform their activity on different degree of public work. The „Svetozar Marković“ University Library in Belgrade which is a central university library at the University of Belgrade works with a high degree of public work. Faculty libraries are open mostly because of the needs of persons employed at the faculty or those who study at the faculty that library belongs to.

Except that, there are institutes which belong to the university. The right to use library collections and services is always determined by a normative act. A faculty library is usually being considered an organizational unit in the framework of the faculty. The „Svetozar Marković“ University Library, for example, is an organizational unit of the University of Belgrade. It has been very long the central library for all academic libraries in Serbia.

This paper focuses on those academic libraries in Serbia which are included into COBISS e.g. Cooperative On-line Bibliographic System and Services⁸⁷. There are libraries out of that system which possess the economic and not just financial literature. However, COBISS is a system which was being developed long and it will be accentuated here because of practical reasons. It is due to the work in this system that a cumulative e-catalogue exists besides individual library e-catalogues.

The cumulative e-catalogue gives an easy insight into the entire situation of Serbian academic librarianship but in VLS e.g. the Virtual Library of Serbia concerning a clearly determined inquiry. So, when we talk on the retrieval of e-catalogues, COBISS is pointed out as well as the fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union. However, as far as e-journals and digital

⁸⁷ www.nb.rs (Access 10.11.2017.)

repositories are concerned, all the academic libraries of Serbia which are the members of Serbian Academic Library Association (SALA) are had in mind.

2. On the fiscal policy of the European Union

Talking on the fiscal policy of the European Union, we should always have in mind that the European Monetary Union is in its core from the very beginning. It can be concluded on the base of professional papers concerning the fiscal policy of EU that there are some data which are subject to change. They can make influence on the formulation of that policy. These data are:

- the number of states – members of the European Union,
- the number of citizens employed in every individual state,
- the rate of unemployment,
- the degree of public expenditures.⁸⁸

It is within the European Union that there is an increased interest in the stability of *euro* particularly because of Brexit. There is also an interest to decrease the unemployment maintaining the possibility for labour power and capital to circulate freely. So, certain decentralisation within the European Union is unavoidable as far as the fiscal policy is concerned. Every state has a certain responsibility for its own pension system and the system of health protection. Some specificities in the fiscal system of each state survive. What survives also is the interest of every state-member of the European Union to decrease the deficit in the balance of payment. What is possible to determine within the European Union is a higher and a lower limit for certain changable values. „General budget principles“ are being implemented during the accepting of proposal, realization and the control of the budget of the European Union⁸⁹. These principles are being implemented in the case of national budgets also:

1. Principle of unity;
2. Principle of universality;
3. Principle of annuality;

Vesna Župan was born in 1966 in Belgrade where she also received her education. She finished her studies at the University of Belgrade with the Master of Science Degree in economics in 1994. In



In 1994 she got the Certificate of Proficiency in English of Cambridge University (Great Britain). Three years later she obtained *Le Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française* issued by the French National Ministry of Education. In 2007 she finished the course *Español de los negocios* (The Cervantes Institute in Belgrade). She speaks also German.

Vesna Župan works as an academic librarian since 1992. In 2004 she became an informator-adviser. Her book *Marketing in the Libraries*, published in 2001, won a prize „Stojan Novaković“ of Serbian Library Association.

She published several monographies in Serbia until today. Her study on Mexican economic reality is translated into English and published for LAP Lambert Academic Publishing (Saarbrücken, Germany) in 2014. Except that, she is the author of numerous academic papers in librarianship and informatics, marketing and international economy.

⁸⁸ Hrvoje Šimović, Fiskalna politika u Evropskoj Uniji i Pakt o stabilnosti i rastu, Zbornik Ekonomskog fakulteta u Zagrebu, God. 3, 2005, str. 86.

⁸⁹ Ian Begg, Future fiscal arrangements of the European Union, *Common Market Law Review*, Volume 41, issue 3, 2004, p. 793-794; Daniel Strasser, The finances of Europe: The budgetary and financial law of the European Communities, Commission of the European Communities, Luxemburg, 1991, p. 41-70; European Commission, *European Union Public Finance*, p. 127-166 and 240.

4. Principle of equilibrium;
5. Principle of specification;
6. Principle of unit of account;
7. Principle of transparency;
8. Principle of sound financial management⁹⁰.

It can be noticed on the base of these principles that the states within the European Union develop further their economies relying a great deal on the market mechanism. It is obvious that they fight for a stable *euro*. Therefore they protect living standard tending to decrease unemployment as much as possible.

3. Fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union in the context of Serbian academic librarianship

The academic libraries in Serbia share the destiny of the economy because of several reasons. The higher the state budget is, the more will the educational and cultural institutions receive for the financing of their activity. Except that, a contemporary and marketing oriented library tends to give actual literature to the users in time to help the promotion of their professional and scientific work. It is its interest to acquire materials in accordance with the professional needs and the expectations of users. The literature on the fiscal policy of the European Union exists in the academic librarianship of Serbia. As far as the central university library in Belgrade is concerned, its collections contain also the units on this financial topic. What exists in the collections of the central university library in Belgrade, generally speaking, can be the object of an interlibrarian loan service. This confirms a very important role of this library in the international librarianship.

As far as cumulative e-catalogue is concerned, it can be noticed that there is literature on the fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union. These references are carefully selected and acquired for the needs of readers. The National Library of Serbia, for example, has the system of compulsory copy. The bibliographic descriptions of articles from journals and conference books are among those references which can be seen on computer screen as the result upon the retrieval of an e-catalogue. The literature from the domain of the fiscal policy of the European Union is mostly in Serbian. It is unavoidable to retrieve the cumulative e-catalogue using an inquiry which combines the European Union and the fiscal policy as terms. It is because EU is wider than EMU.

It is through his own professional experience that a librarian develops a scientific feeling when and how an inquiry is to be adjusted in order to receive a longer list of references. Therefore, many references which refer to the fiscal policy of the European Union will refer also to the fiscal policy of the Eurozone. So, the European Monetary Union is not being analyzed just in those library materials which contain EMU in their own titles but also in those which contain EU in the titles. Subject headings are very important while analysing a bibliographic description.

References in English within local e-catalogues, as far as this financial topic is concerned, are not so numerous but they are unavoidable because it is a leading world business language. There is very little literature concerning this topic in other languages. The formal structure of library materials in Serbian academic librarianship for the *fiscal policy* of the *European Union* as a

⁹⁰ Kristijan Ristić i Žarko Ristić, *Evropske javne finansije*, Beograd, 2011, str. 206.

topic is favourable. There are almost 58% of articles among the library units for this topic. There are 30,77% of books in this domain out of the total number of references found through the retrieval of the cumulative e-catalogue.

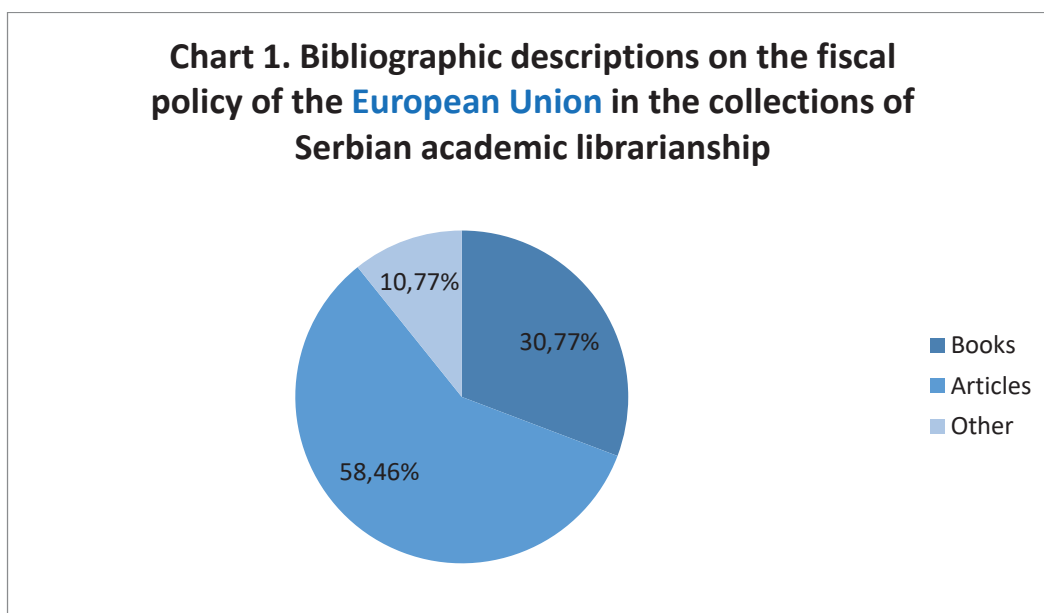
Table 1. Bibliographic descriptions in the domain of the fiscal policy of the European Union in Serbian academic librarianship (all languages)

Term (Serbian)	No. of bibliographic descriptions (all materials)	No. of bibliographic descriptions of books
Taxes and European Union	161	60
Fees and European Union	4	3
Tax levies and European Union	3	0
Budget and European Union	58	23
Fiscal policy and European Union	65	20
Public incomes and European Union	35	14
Public expences and European Union	3	1

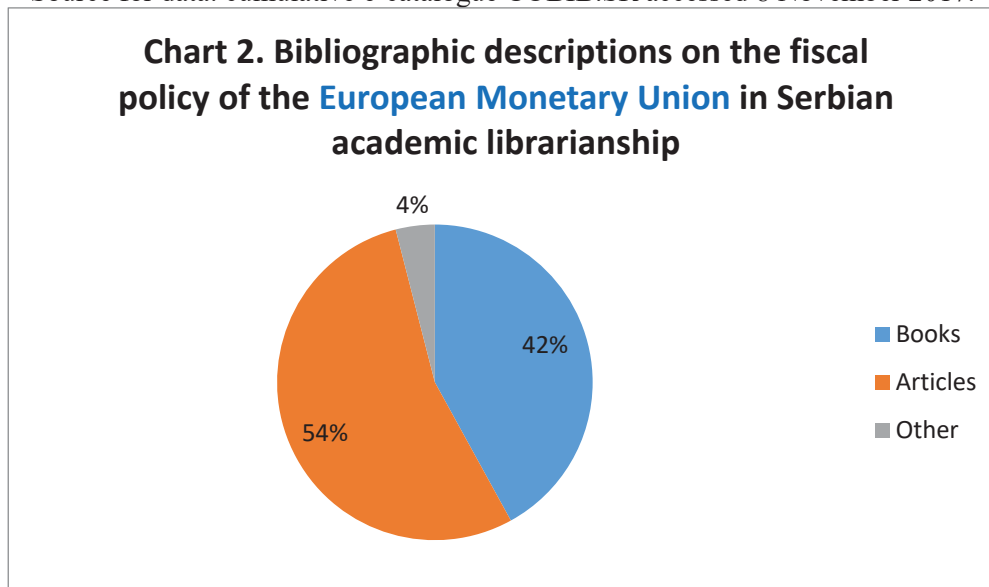
Source: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR accessed 8.11.2017.

Bibliographic descriptions in the central university library are being created in accordance with the international standards for that purpose. These standards are introduced by IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) in 1963. The using of COBISS for cataloguing and classifying library materials implies the knowledge on these standards as well as the information skills for their implementation in practice.

During the cataloguing of library materials the classifying is being done in accordance with UDC e.g. Universal Decimal Classification. E-catalogues of Serbian academic librarianship are in free access having in mind COBISS as a Cooperative On-line Bibliographic System and Services. These catalogues can be retrieved also using a UDC number. However, readers use mostly their mother tongue in order to retrieve an e-catalogue.



Source for data: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR accessed 8 November 2017.



Source for data: cumulative e-catalogue COBIB.SR accessed 12 February 2018.

As the „Svetozar Marković“ University Library in Belgrade has big collections, the realizing of classification is unavoidable. Academic librarians use their mother tongue as well as a professional terminology while classifying library materials. Literature is in different languages, published in different letters, and in different formats. Although this library is oriented mostly towards social sciences, it has literature in all scientific fields. Interlibrarian loan service exists in the „Svetozar Marković“ University Library because of library users in humanities, social sciences, biomedicine and technical sciences as well.

4. E-resources on the fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union in Serbian academic librarianship

4.1. E-articles in Serbian academic librarianship

Serbian academic librarianship has its` Consortium for Coordinated Aquisitions. It is known as KoBSON (Konzorcijum biblioteka Srbije za objedinjenu nabavku). Libraries associated into that consortium realize an access to the e-journals under more favourable conditions than if they would try to do it separately from one another. Their financier pays the access to the e-journals for the members of KoBSON with certain discount. Users may retrieve data bases in the library or at home. E-articles are being used in the practice of the academic libraries in Serbia almost 15 years. Full texts of e-articles can be downloaded onto pocket drives, CD-ROM-s or sent by email to another inbox. They may be printed out in the library also.

In any case the « Svetozar Marković » University Library is the place where the users may find useful materials for their master and doctoral works in financial theory and policy. Postgraduates use its` collections in order to prepare exams or for their professional perfectionning which can be a good way towards employment or a better job.

4.2. Doctoral dissertations in free access – the achievements of Serbian academic librarianship

The fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union is the object of study for certain researchers on different levels of their professional perfecting. It would be useful to know that the University of Belgrade has its own PHAIDRA (Permanent Hosting, Archiving and Indexing of Digital Resources and Assets) repository where the full texts of doctoral dissertations are being downloaded.⁹¹ The University of Kragujevac has its own PHAIDRA-u⁹², and the University of Niš has its own repository with the same name.⁹³ The purpose is identical or similar as these two universities have also doctoral students in who finish these studies successfully.

Nowadays project NaRDuS (National Repository of Dissertations in Serbia)⁹⁴ becomes actually of the greatest importance. All doctoral dissertations in Serbia are visible through this portal. This repository is much more complete than individual PHAIDRA-s. These doctoral dissertations which are finished and defended in Serbia are not available only through NaRDuS but also on the portal of European e-theses DART⁹⁵. These doctoral dissertations can be found on this portal whose web address is : www.dart-europe.eu.

If we stay focused on the fiscal policy of the European Union implying that European Monetary Union is its key segment, we will find doctoral dissertations on DART in different languages. It is illustrated by the table no. 2.

So, that statistical table shows that even 13 doctoral dissertations from the United Kingdom were found in DART on the fiscal policy of the European Union. Nine doctoral dissertations from Italy were found in the same repository concerning this professional topic, five doctoral dissertations from France, five also from Serbia etc. This retrieval was realized in November 2017.

As it can be noticed there are lots of materials. These doctoral dissertations have expanded abstracts in English. Except that, even if they are not written in a world language, they have a list of resources used for writing the dissertation or a bibliography. This may be useful for present and future professionals in the financial theory and policy. Doctoral dissertations from Serbia may be downloaded in pdf as well as many other doctoral dissertations that the users would like to overtake from DART.

Table 2. The no. of doctoral dissertations on the fiscal policy of EU on the portal of European e-theses DART

State	No. of doctoral dissertations in DART
Great Britain	13
Italy	9
France	5
Serbia	5
Spain	4
Greece	3

⁹¹ Eteze.bg.ac.rs (Access 02.11.2017.)

⁹² Eteze.kg.ac.rs (Access 03.11.2017.)

⁹³ Eteze.ni.ac.rs (Access 04.11.2107.)

⁹⁴ Nardus.mpn.gov.rs (Access 06.11.2107.)

⁹⁵ www.dart-europe.eu (Access 09.11.2017.)

Checq	2
Germany	2
Hungary	2
Finland	1
Ireland	1
Netherlands	1
Portugal	1
Switzerland	1

Source: www.dart-europe.eu accessed 9.11.2017.

5. Conclusion

Serbia confirms its orientation towards the European Union in librarianship and informatics also. The problems of the European Monetary Union are to be analysed through all forms of materials which are being acquired by the academic libraries of Serbia. There are more than 50% of articles in the structure of printed materials in the collections of Serbian academic librarianship having in mind bibliographic descriptions concerning the fiscal policy of EU. That literature is mostly in Serbian and in English. Some references are in other languages but rarely.

Serbia is the country of the Western Balkans. The young are getting prepared for the labour market during their schooling. Therefore, the measures are being undertaken in order to realize regularly the access to the e-resources with different contents which would be indispensable for basic and postgraduate studies.

A fruitful collaboration can be expected with those who would like to participate in creating their own intellectual potentials respecting the fact that we live involved into a multicultural society which is being globalized intensively. Getting familiar with the fiscal policy of the European Monetary Union is an imperative for a successful integration of every single enterprise into the market of the European Union as a wider region having in mind all possible advantages and disadvantages that such a process includes. So it would be particularly important to have in mind the European Union all the time while retrieving the cumulative e-catalogue because of the fiscal policy in its smaller but core segment – the European Monetary Union.

Resources:

1. www.nb.rs
2. www.unilib.rs
3. www.dart-europe.eu
4. Eteze.bg.ac.rs
5. Eteze.kg.ac.rs
6. Eteze.ni.ac.rs
7. Vesna Župan, Linguistic structure of the economic materials in Serbian academic librarianship. Navigating through COBISS, Belgrade, Svet knjige, 2016, 115 p. (Serbian)
8. Kristijan Ristić and Žarko Ristić, European public finances. Fiscal policy of the EU, Belgrade, EtnoStil d.o.o., 2011, 227 p. (Serbian)
9. Hrvoje Šimović, Fiskalna politika u Evropskoj Uniji i Pakt o stailnosti i rastu, Zbornik Ekonomskog fakulteta u Zagrebu, God. 3, 2005, str. 86.
10. Ian Begg, Future fiscal arrangements of the European Union, Common Market Law Review, Volume 41, issue 3, 2004, p. 793-794; Daniel Strasser, The finances of Europe:

The budgetary and financial law of the European Communities, Commission of the European Communities, Luxemburg, 1991, p. 41-70; European Commission, European Union Public Finance, p. 127-166 and 240.