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MUSEUM NETWORK IN CROATIA

New museum network in the Republic of Croatia was adopted by the Croatian museum council at the Ministry of culture, sport and education (October 1990) with the conclusion that its application will begin after passing the Law about the museum activity of the Republic of Croatia (some time in Jun, 1992).

The network anticipates affiliation by the registration procedures for the following:

- history museums
- arts museums
- archeological museums
- ethnographic museums
- engineering museums
- natural history museums
- school museums
- central museum organisation

It is also necessary to have both horizontal and vertical connection between the republic/national museums, as well as with other levels of activity. Within that we have to ensure the functioning of the activities of mutual interest, such as:

- scientific and professional connection in order to ensure functioning of the activities of mutual interest
- INDOC, activity standards
- conservation-restoration activity
- research, museological activity

- unique criterion for the redemption
- planning of joint programmes, editing and displaying activities, etc.

Republic/national museum level implies direct activity on the whole territory of the Republic of Croatia through the policy of collecting, exploring, keeping and exhibiting of the museum material, and help and cooperation with other museum institutions on the level of regions and towns.

The museum network of Croatia consists of 184 museums, galleries and regional museum collections (128 museums/galleries and 56 regional museum collections) with a total holdings of about 5.000.000 objects. First public museum institution was established in 1750.; The Archiepiscopal museum P.Bize in Split, and the first museum in 1820.; Archeological museum in Split.

The biggest museum centres of central and national museums are in Zagreb (21 museum/gallery), Split (10 museum/gallery), Dubrovnik (8 museum/gallery), as well as in Osijek, Varaždin, Rijeka, Pula, Zadar, etc.

Museum-gallery institutions employ 1184 workers, 568 of which are professionals in the field (435 curators, restorers, etc.). Museums and galleries also have about 50 preparatory and restoration workshops.

Museum network and horizontal and vertical connection call for the standardization of the museum activity with regards to the space, equipment, personnel, documentation and other forms of activity.