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# Legal Deposit of Cultural Heritage: Development and Overview (History, Principles and Elements)

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#### Keywords

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Archives or legal deposit organizations which are libraries, museums and archive organizations are memory organizations that offer services such as deposit, organizing, sorting, making ready for use and preserving physical documents that have archival quality in accordance with predetermined rules. Legal Deposit is the name of compulsory the donation that, according to the royal charter (decree) or law, the printers, editors or authors are obliged to give one or more copies of each printed work to the State. The number of libraries benefiting from this business is many around the world. Compilation work in history begins with the decree of French King François I. The king issued a royal charter (decree) in Monpellier on 28 December 1537 in order to show the future generations that the fine arts and positive sciences were developed in his own age. In this edict, he ordered that no book could be put up for sale unless a copy was given to his private library in Blois castle. Other countries followed France's deposit edict. An electronic transformation known as the digital revolution continues to occur in all areas of life. This transformation has affected the archives as well as in every organization providing public service. In Turkey, some of the cultural institutions have taken the cultural objects in their archives to the digital archive and made them available on the web. These are digitization of manuscripts, virtual museum implementation, audio-visual archive studies of TRT and contributions of some non-governmental organizations to the cultural inventory, etc. These studies are studies carried out by cultural institutions that are independent from each other, in line with their own initiatives, without a legal basis. The project of digital archiving of national cultural heritage materials and their access via a common web continues to expand. The name of the project is Turkey Cultural Inventory Project (It is accessible at www.envanter.gov.tr). In the introductory part of this article, how libraries, archives and museums that deposit archival materials started and their strategic developments throughout history will be briefly explained. With the communication age we are in, strategies for transition from physical storage to digital inventory will be explained with examples. After the legal deposit in the world will be explained briefly, the legal deposit works in Turkey will be summarized. In the last section, type the main topic of digital cultural inventory of Turkey, Turkey's Culture Inventory database operation will be explained.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In this article, the historical processes of legal deposit methods used by recognized national institutions will be explained with examples from around the world. Those information, documents and cultural assets deposited by the institutions are important to strengthen lifelong learning skills of all segments of society. In addition, also in the cultural heritage sector of Turkey, libraries, archives, museums and related institutions that produce digital materials or digitize analog materials will be examined and digital archiving studies developed at

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national and international scale, standards, models and good practice examples reflected in the literature will be explained.

The desire to control knowledge has always been on the agenda of organized societies throughout history. In our age, great progress has been made in the production and control of information and it still maintains its importance. As for what products should be considered within the scope of the legal deposit, they are all the intellectual cultural assets of the country without any selectivity. John Gilchrist (Gilchrist 2005) explains why it is vital to preserve cultural heritage and make it easily accessible:

The past is a part of us. It is inherent in all artistic, social, economic, scientific and intellectual development. It is important that future generations have access to, and understand, the past, to better understand themselves and to better deal with the future. In cultures based on written records, the greater proportion of material which is not preserved, the less likely that value will be respected and promoted (Gilchrist 2005).

In other words, cultural heritage can be seen as a crucial factor in our current and future ability to enter various fields, including political, intellectual, cultural and economic fields. In the context of the digital age, the importance of protecting cultural heritage and accessing them continues as a point emphasized by the European Commission (Communication on the Digitisation and Online Accessibility of Cultural Material and Digital Preservation Brussels 24.8.2006 C (2006) 3808 Final.)

The legal deposit institutions that collect the largest bibliographic records are archives, libraries and museums. Since the methods used in archiving, the services provided and the user groups they serve are different from the other two, archives are institutionalized organizations separate from libraries and museums. For example, while the vast majority of resources in libraries are available to the public, in archives they can often be restricted to the use of individuals, families, institutions and even nations. For this reason, the development, widespread use of cataloging services in libraries and their collective service are quite advanced compared to archive institutions.

There are different applications in museums; the compiled material is protected in safer environments compared to archives and is largely unavailable to reach to the public. For this reason, museum catalogs are mostly prepared to meet the needs of private researchers and institution staff. Again, for this reason, collaborating with other museums and focusing on standardization in cataloging of collections in museums are not as priority targets as in libraries and archives. Moreover, museum curators deal with the deposition and display of threedimensional objects, while librarians deal with twodimensional information-intensive books, films and other printed materials and while archivists deal with archival paper and electronic documents. In other words, there are differences between the materials that all three on (Patrick http://library.ifla.org/231/7/220-lo-en.pdf).

In Buckland's assessment on the concept of information, he says: "Although museums differ from

libraries and archives in terms of the type of material they collect, museum material is objects of information value to shed light on its own period, to be put into service due to its relationships with other materials and a catalog containing data about itself" (Buckland 1988).

Museum material has similar characteristics to library and archive materials because of its informational values. In this respect, it would not be wrong to say that services are provided in line with common goals in all three institutions. Despite these important common features that they have had for centuries, these memory institutions, which did not (could not) establish close contact with each other, were forced to share the same environment and / or common platforms with the digitalization of the information access route. Let's take a brief look at the historical development of legal deposit before moving on to the efforts to organize all kinds of deposit institutions, especially archives, libraries and museums, which produce information and knowledge at the national level, under a single roof by developing standards that enable the compilation of digital content on common platforms.

Considering the expression "an obligatory form of donation that serves various purposes (M.E.B 1961)" in the general definition of the concept of legal deposit, the method used by the Greek King Ptoleme for the formation of the Library of Alexandria appears as the first deposit work in a primitive sense. In that work by the king's order, librarians forcibly took original copies of the classical books found on ships arriving at the port to the library and gave scribal copies in return (Sağlamtunç 1998).

It is stated that after the invention of the printing press, a certain number of copies of the works were seized by the administration or the church in Europe to check whether the published works were against religion and / or the state (Acaroğlu 1966).

#### 2. History, Principles and Elements of Legal Deposit

#### 2.1. France

The concept of legal deposit in archiving is usually attributed to France, in particular, the Montpellier Ordinance of 28 December 1537, by which King Francois I mandated that a copy of every newly published book be sent to the Royal Library at Blois. The penalty for noncompliance with the order was confiscation of all print, along with a fine (Crews 1988). After this date, legal deposit in France has been a continuous practice towards the realization of different purposes (Crews 1988).

Legal deposit in France became in 1617 a precondition of obtaining trade privileges and with the 1793 decree deposit was for the first time connected to obtaining copyright protection. For a short time, after 1810, deposits were given under control of the Ministry of Police, in order to facilitate surveillance of the press. The Royal Library which kept the deposited works was moved to Fontainebleau in 1534 and to Paris in the second half of the 16th century, and then later it formed the Bibliotheque Nationale (Crews 1988). In France, bibliographic control is carried out through the French National Library, whose main mission is to collect

(deposit), protect, organize and transmit. The French National Library sees itself as the "National Bibliographic Formulary", which catalogs all printed resources published in the country (https://www.bnf.fr/en/bibliotheque-nationale-defrance-catalogue-general).

The scope of the Legal Deposit Law in France was expanded by applying it to maps and plans in 1648, musical notes in 1793, photographs and phonographs in 1925, poster collections in 1941, video and multimedia media in 1975, computer programs and databases in 1992, to internet environments in 2006. Nowadays, thanks to the update of this law, it is obliged to compile even the websites whose internet address ends in ".fr" (Musnik 2011). The only authority for bibliographic control of state publications is the French National Library. Catalog records of the French National Library can be accessed at (http://www.bnf.fr).

#### 2.2. United States

In the United States of America (USA), legal deposit (bibliographic control) studies started to be carried out approximately 150 years after France. Copyright Act, which entered into force in 1790, is the beginning of legal deposit studies in this country. The law stipulated that one copy of each copyright approved work will be given to the state (Crews 1988). The task of performing the deposit service began in 1846 by the Smithsonian Institute and the Ministry of Interior. The Library of Congress, which is known as a very modern library today, carries out the legal deposit processes on behalf of the country after 1870 (Crews 1988). The law was amended in 1909 and the provision regarding deposit was renewed as "two copies of the works should be compiled and one is given to the Library of Congress and the other is sent to the Exchange and Gift Division of this library" (Allen et al. 1975). The legal deposit, which is in effect today, is made in accordance with section 17 of the Copyright Act of 1976. Accordingly, two copies of each printed work and audio / video record that have received copyright approval in the USA must be submitted to the Copyright Office by the copyright holders within three months following the release of the work for the collection and use of the Library of Congress. (UNESCO 1996)

When these regulations were made in the USA in 1976, computer-based products were excluded from the scope of deposit because they have not yet been widely available to the public. However, submitting a copy of these works to the Copyright Office for copyright approval, which is mentioned in Article 408 of the Copyright Act of 1976, formed the basis for the first practices. After such publications began to be widely distributed, the Library of Congress created the Machine Readable Collections Reading Room for the use of copies received in accordance with copyright approval in research. Here, it is aimed to provide access to computerbased digital resources as well as access to Library of Congress's bibliographic resources in printed form. This application has also been an experience for legal deposit applications of forward-looking digital publications. As a result of these first practices regarding electronic publications, the copyright law was amended in 1988 in order to make bibliographic processes more effective in the USA and all kinds of electronic materials in physical format; CD ROMs, magnetic tapes, micro forms have begun to be deposited. The bibliographic control of state publications in the USA is carried out through the United States Federal Government Printing Office, which is known as the world's largest publisher. Since most of the publications bibliographically controlled by the Government Printing Office do not have copyrights, the publication rate is quite high. These publications can be accessed at https://catalog.gpo.gov/(https://www.loc.gov/).

#### 2.3. England

The first bibliographic control studies in England started to be implemented with the Press Licensing Act in 1662 (R.Partridge 1662). The works to be subject to bibliographic control are made regardless of copyright and include a wide range of printed material (Crews 1988). Legal Deposit Office of the British provides compilation services in the country, which is affiliated to "The British Library", the largest library in England. The institution acts as the compilation branch of the country. it provides compilation of only book type materials. Newspaper Legal Deposit Office, on the other hand, is the only newspaper compilation branch, compiling newspapers and periodicals. Each copy of the publications sent to the institutions responsible for compilation is deposited in The British Library. Other copies of the publications sent for compilation are;

- Oxford University Bodleian Library,
- Cambridge University Library,
- National Library of Wales,
- National Library of Scotland,
- Sent to Trinity College Library, Dublin.

These libraries do not catalog all the publications sent to them, but catalog the works they choose in accordance with their institutional policies (Cavendish and Pool 1984).

Bibliographic control of state publications in the country is carried out by Her Majesty's Stationary Office and The National Archives. Established in 1786, Her Majesty's Stationary Office has become an institution that produces and follows all the actions and publications of the parliament since 1889 (https://www.legislation.gov.uk/aboutus). Today, National Archives provides the protection of publications and tries to provide the information needed today and in the future. Access to government publications is available at www.legislation.gov.uk

#### 2.4. Germany

A legal deposit requirement at the federal level was codified for the first time in West Germany in 1969. The law was amended in 1973. Germany does not have a separate institution to carry out activities related to bibliographic control of state publications and a national library where the deposited works are physically collected in a single location, as in England and France (Anameriç 2008). The legal deposit law mandates four

libraries, including the national library, to carry out bibliographic control of government publications. In other words, libraries in different states that make bibliographic record part of the German National Library (https://www.europeana.eu/en/TEL accessed on 1 December, 2020; Karpuz 2008).

Libraries where government publications are deposited as required by law:

- Deutsche Nationalbibliothek Frankfurtam Main (DNB):
- Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin-Berlin State Library,
- Bibliothek des Deutschen Bundestages- Library of the German Bundestag, Berlin,
- Bayerische Staatsbibliothek.

One of the important works of the German National Library is the German National Bibliography Collection. The founding law of the library dates back to 1912 and the library collection started to be created from that date up to the present.

## 2.5. Turkey

# 2.5.1. Bibliographic Control and Access to Government Publications in Turkey

Our ancestors, who came from a nomadic life, did not make bibliographic record studies until the Ottoman Empire. Although it is not based on any legal sanction, the historical background of the state publications phenomenon started with Fatih Sultan Mehmet during the rise of the Ottoman Empire. State publications such as edict, berat, testament, copyrighted works, translated books, treatise, commentary, hashiye, hamish and miniature were mostly used in the transfer of various types of knowledge to future generations during the Ottoman Empire (Anameriç 2006). It had been tried to be bibliographic control of these works as state publication. However, during this period, the bibliographic control of state publications did not show continuity as it was determined by political policies in the Ottoman Empire. The late start of bibliographic record of cultural assets in Turkey causes of the limited historical and cultural

Insufficiency of legal deposit work during the early years of the Republic of Turkey was being voiced by some intellectuals. It is well-known case that in 1926, Dr. Hamit Zübeyr Koşay who was the manager for cultural issues at that time, had prepared a legal deposit law as a draft. The Ministry of Education, Committee of Education and Discipline, prepared a bulletin called Bibliography during 1931- 1933. Istanbul University Library Service also prepared a bibliography covering the years 1928-1933 `Bibliography of Turkey` minted in 1933 (Acaroğlu 1953).

By order of Veteran Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the Law on Legal Deposit of Printed Texts and Pictures publication letter No. 2527 2527 was enacted on 02.07.1934 for the effective, healthy and complete collection, classification, regular transfer of the copies of books and works of art which were published domestically or abroad - in accordance with bilateral or multilateral agreements and constitute the cultural existence and knowledge of our country, to transfer them

to future generations regularly, to protect them in favorable environments and to present them to the knowledge and benefit of the society (Official Journal/Turkey, Date: 02.07.1934 Issue: 2741.).

With this law, the Legal Deposit Department was established under Directorate of National Training and Education in the Ministry of Education. This directorate is affiliated to the Publishing Directorate of the Ministry of Culture with the clause "e" of Article 4 of the Law No. 2773 dated 10.06.1935. Later once again, it was affiliated with the Ministry of Education, Publication Directorate.

On 21.09.1981, the Regulation on the Legal Deposit was issued and the Directorate of Legal Deposit of Printed Texts and Pictures (Printed Writing and Pictures Compilation Directorate/Turkey) was turned into a unit under the General Directorate of Libraries of the Ministry of Culture. Later it was affiliated with the Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Culture on 13.07.1990 with the Regulation on Duties, Authorities, Responsibilities and Working Principles of Cultural Directorates (Official Journal/Turkey, Date: 21.09.1981 Issue: 17465).

According to the Law No. 2527, which entered into force on 02.07.1934, a total of five copies, one copy to the National Library, one copy to the Ankara Public Library, one to the Istanbul University Library, one copy to the Istanbul Public Library, one copy to the Izmir Public Library were sent (Ministry of Education Office of National Education and Discipline/Turkey, Date; 1934.).

The writings and pictures that the people who printed the works and pictures had to submit to the Directorate are: Newspapers, agency notices, magazines, books, treatises, education theses, memoirs, atlases, paintings, engravings, all kinds of pictures, wall postings with artistic value, manuals, plans, sketches, epic and song magazines, musical notes, dance notes and theater plays, reports published by the society and companies, all kinds of catalogs, calendars, annuals, annals and memoranda. In addition to the publications that the State Offices confidential, the texts and pictures printed by official printing houses and official institutions, as well as bonds, checks, stamps and valuable papers are among the publications that must be documented (Official Journal/Turket, 1981 Issue: 17465.).

If the text and images from printed and published outside Turkey six copies were delivered to the Directorate of Legal Deposit. Of the collected copies, two copies were delivered to the National Library, one copy to the Ankara Public Library, one copy to the Ministry of Education Museum Department Library, one copy to the Istanbul İstanbul Asâr-ı Atika Museums Library, one copy to the Turkish Historical Research Society Library.

The Law No. 6279 on Legal Deposit of Duplicated Intellectual and Artistic Works, issued on 29.02.2012, abolished the Law No. 2527 of 02.07.1934. With this law, the Printing Writing and Pictures Compilation Directorate was converted as the Legal Deposit Directorate and its field of activity was limited to the province of Istanbul. In other provinces, the task of legal deposit was given to the legal deposit units and provincial public libraries (Official Journal/Turkey, Date: 2012 Issue: 28388).

The legal deposit made from the works and pictures printed in Turkey and abroad after the enactment of the

Law No. 6279 is as follows. Within the borders of the Republic of Turkey, published or replicated, all kinds of work described below, were collected under this law.

These.

Separately published works such as books, embossed books, pamphlets, encyclopedias, albums, atlas and notes, which are published individually or as part of a set or a series, periodicals such as newspapers, magazines, annuals, bulletins, calendars, posters, postcards, engravings. Graphic works such as reproductions, printed photographs, all kinds of slides, tapes, pieces of film, reel, tape, cartridge, film and microforms containing data, optical materials produced for use in all kinds of computers, music and video devices, including sound, images and data and works reproduced by recording on magnetic media, stamps and banknotes together with their prospectuses, geographic, geological, topographic or meteorological maps, plans and sketches, works printed or reproduced abroad, sold and distributed domestically, electronic publications produced and put into use in electronic environment. (Official Journal /Turkey, Date: 12012 Issue: 28388.)

As a result, the Directorate of Legal Deposit of Printed Texts and Pictures was established in 1934 with the order of Atatürk, and continued its activities with the establishment law, issued circulars, instructions and regulations issued over time.

When it was established in 1934, it was responsible for the legal deposit of all press texts and pictures in Turkey, its organizational structure was expanded by creating additional services with regulations issued in 1981. Its field of duty has been narrowed since 2012 and it has been turned into a directorate responsible for the deposit of printed texts and pictures published only in Istanbul. It is an active directorate that still maintains this task.

# 2.5.2. Bibliographic Record of the Digital Cultural Heritage and the Case in Turkey

Increasingly, resources and information within the scope of cultural heritage are produced or digitized in digital format and accessed through Web services. Digital materials such as digital photographs, films, music, visuals, sound recordings, texts, museum objects, manuscripts are accepted as part of the national historical and cultural heritage. Many countries carry out archiving studies for the protection and access of digital cultural heritage at national and international scale. The actors in the cultural heritage sector in Turkey have been developing applications independently from each other and use different technologies. This situation negatively affects the interoperability of the developed applications and the sharing of resources.

In Turkey, some institutions digitize the materials/ the objects with their own means of facilities or mainly by collaborating with other institutions, but there is a great confusion because the necessary policies, plans, standards, processes, responsibilities are not defined on a project basis or a detailed frame work basis. Many institutions have staff, policy and financial difficulties, and many of the studies on national cultural heritage have not yet been inventoried in digital formats.

Digital archive studies to be created in this direction are at the starting point of policies for the protection of cultural heritage. Digitalization studies in museums, libraries, sites and registered structures affiliated to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism have been continuing to create digital archives since 2002. However, in the reports under the heading of "Preserving and Developing Culture and Strengthening Social Dialogue" prepared on culture, although issues such as strengthening the cultural infrastructure, spreading cultural activities, developing our cultural relations with world countries, especially with countries with a common historical background, detection, research, maintenance-repair and restoration, cultural diversity have been mentioned, there is no policy or plan regarding digitization studies that can be considered within the scope of cultural heritage or archiving existing digital assets for preservation.

The institution authorized by law to protect the cultural heritage is the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. However, there is no sanction regarding digital protection and access of cultural heritage within the relevant laws and regulations.

Although not yet under a common scientific database, institutions related to cultural heritage including the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Directorate of State Archives, the Directorate of Topkapı Palace Museum, the Department of Archives of TRT, the National Library, governorships, municipalities, some NGOs, etc continue to work on creating their own digital archives. In addition to these, some public libraries and university libraries also have digital collections within the scope of cultural heritage.

In the digitalizing world, it is an undeniable fact that there is a change in every field from life styles to the ways of doing business, education methods, and ways of providing information.

In Turkey as well as in the whole world museums, palaces, mosques, churches, monasteries, archaeological sites, historical sites are converted to digital resources that can be visited virtually in detail over the web. With the integration of geographic information systems into mobile applications, archaeological sites and touristic places, etc. have become accessible not only by computers but also by mobile phones, and they have become increasingly common. Since 2009, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism has made many museums open to visitors virtually over the web. Images of the objects of the museum materials have been transferred to digital media and some of them are presented with 360 degree panoramic images of the museums. In Turkey, some institutions, organizations, the private sector and foundations that have also museums are opening their services in a virtual environment. Eczacibasi Virtual Museum is among the most comprehensive examples, the Mausoleum of the Virtual Tour, Virtual Tour of Ataturk and the War of Independence Museum, Rahmi M. Koç Museum, Turkey Isbank Museum.

Among the cultural institutions in Turkey, under the leadership of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, a protocol has been drawn up regarding the inventory studies carried out for the purpose of determining, protecting and researching our cultural heritage

domestically or abroad. A coordination board consisting of representatives of the Ministry, The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), the Turkish General Directorate of Foundations and The Turkish Historical Society has been formed. Compiled information is available on the web site of General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums.

This inventory study was scientifically inadequate. Detailed information, maps, plans etc. were not included. it was just inventory receipt information that's why the inventory project could not be completed.

Based on the later research, all cultural institutions accepts that "Turkey Culture Inventory" is very important to humanity's cultural heritage and must be completed as soon as possible, but all data should be able to be associated with each other in an information system. However, it has been observed that the target of creating a common language which will not differ according to the experience, knowledge and approach of the experts who prepare the artifact detection documents and thus a database system suitable for a comprehensive query has not been reached yet.

With the view that it is impossible to create options that will allow everyone to reach a full consensus, certain decisions were made in order to create the database without wasting time, and studies continued in this direction.

The strategic approaches of the cultural sector and academicians to create a common database are as follows.

- a) The cultural inventory should be completed soon.
- b) Reliability and standardization should not be sacrificed in order to complete the inventory as soon as possible.
- c) Obtained data should be easily accessible by all kinds of institutions and individuals.
- d) The database should be able to query for different purposes, including cross-querying, according to the purpose of the user.
- e) The data and the information it contains must be open to update.
- f) The rapid completion of the inventory requires a model to operate without bureaucratic obstacles and political pressures.
- g) There is no doubt that preparing a fast, reliable and modern inventory involves a workload that a single institution cannot perform when the problem is considered in Turkey scale, in terms of diversity of the cultural heritage of our country, and sheer numbers of problems faced by. For this reason, a working model which should be open to the participation of nongovernmental organizations who want to undertake this job, must be created by a council attended by various institutions. However, the control and authorization of the data collection process and the server where the date is collected should be done by a expert unit that undertakes this task.
- h) It is not correct to construct the database as a one-toone transfer of those made for other countries while creating Cultural Inventory of Turkey. The unique conditions, cultural background and ruins of our country are different from those in other parts of the world. For

this reason, it should be aimed to build a model that does not contradict the principles established by international institutions, adapts to them and on the other hand, meets the requirements of our country.

- i) Cultural inventory is a dynamic concept; it is constantly changing and renewed. For this reason, the cultural inventory database should not be static, but open to new developments and should have a renewable structure without breaking the standard it contains.
- j) The working model envisaged for the rapid completion of the cultural inventory requires the formation of teams to do this throughout the year and a structuring that will allow those from universities and other institutions who can participate for a certain period of time.
- k) Outside the scope of the cultural inventory of Turkey, there are thousands of cultural heritage documents prepared by the various teams, individuals and institutions in our country. In addition to new documentation requiring a long time and labor force in the field, the work done so far can be transformed into the requirements of the database and the language of expression with less effort. Developing an approach for this purpose, with the database of previous studies, the cultural inventory with scientific studies and will ensure integration with bureaucratic documents. (TÜBA-TÜKSEK 2003).

In line with these strategic approaches, the first scientific data base attempt was initiated within the scope of Turkish Academy of Sciences Turkey's Culture Sector (TÜBA-TÜKSEK) in 2000. The project started under the name of "Inventory Project of Turkey" and its output the Culture Book Database has developed through various stages since 2000.

The TÜBA-TÜKSEK Culture Book project had a world-class inventory system prepared by the expert academics, but it was prepared in book format. It was not transferred to the digital environment. To make this project online with the support of geographic information system (GIS) and digitize the inventory of Turkey, Ministry of Culture and Tourism and TÜBA did a project partnership. They prepared a joint-project. The project also received funding support within the framework of European Union grant programs (DELTUR 2005 / 111–858) at the end of November 2005. At the end of the project, "Kültür Kitap" emerged as a new product with its digital infrastructure supported by GIS. It is accessible on web http://www.envanter.gov.tr/address.

Cultural Inventory Project continues to expand towards becoming a Database of all tangible and intangible cultural assets in Turkey with support from the Culture and Tourism Ministry and other Cultural Institutions. (TÜBA-TÜKSEK 2003)

# 3. CONCLUSION

In Turkey, an online database system has been established that can guide studies such as site management, landscaping, restoration, conservation and re-evaluation necessary for the protection of historical texture, archaeological sites and folklore values.

Database software that might be named as "National Heritage" or "Cultural Inventory of Turkey" was the final

output of the cultural inventory project implemented by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism together with the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) in 2005. It has been targeted that inventory system should be disseminated to all of Turkey.

Despite the fact that it is an ongoing project on which uploading of the cultural data to the database continues, the completed part that cultural inventory of Ankara and Istanbul Provinces had already been uploaded has been accessible via the website at www.envanter.gov.tr

In addition to the data presented / to be presented to users through the website, it is a source for many local and foreign researchers, academicians and students; ready, qualified and accurate information contained in the relevant publications that emerge / will emerge as a result of the study will increase the quality of the service provided by the tourism sector.

First of all, within the scope of the project, the database created as a result of the studies where various cultural institutions and organizations are united under a single roof will provide a coordination mechanism for future studies. Since the work methodology applied in Turkish Inventory Project is in coordination with the methodologies that the Council of Europe, the European Commission and UNESCO followed in cultural sector and policies, a ground for sharing information will be created with other world cities carrying out similar projects. It is already a model and a source of inspiration for other cities in Turkey as the database is open to service. (http://www.envanter.gov.tr/)

When the project is completed, it will be a scientific study on cultural heritage and cultural economy of Turkey. It will also become an important reference in determining the National Cultural Policies. This project will constitute an important infrastructure for the two international programs that are the Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends and Cultural Policy Review Program conducted by the Cultural Director of the Council of Europe of which Turkey is a member, too. Furthermore, this project would constitute a significant infrastructure in the creation of the text of "National Cultural Policy of Turkey".

In the database, there are studies of archeology, urban architecture, folk culture, cultural economy and database working groups. The system is designed in accordance with the loading of each new data and the addition of new fields. The database is compatible with the data obtained as a result of the studies carried out by various institutions until today.

Cultural services and industries fed by cultural assets are the cornerstones of the new economy. Thanks to the cultural inventory, Turkey's profile of cultural and financial capacity of the arts, actors, production, consumption, labor, profile of the investment and trade would be achieved by figures, thus, the contributions of the cultural economy to the country can be demonstrated in figures. Inventory data will bring Turkey into a creative and innovative environment (sectoral support, such as spatial clustering and wider participation in culture), helping the search for new policies is another goal.

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