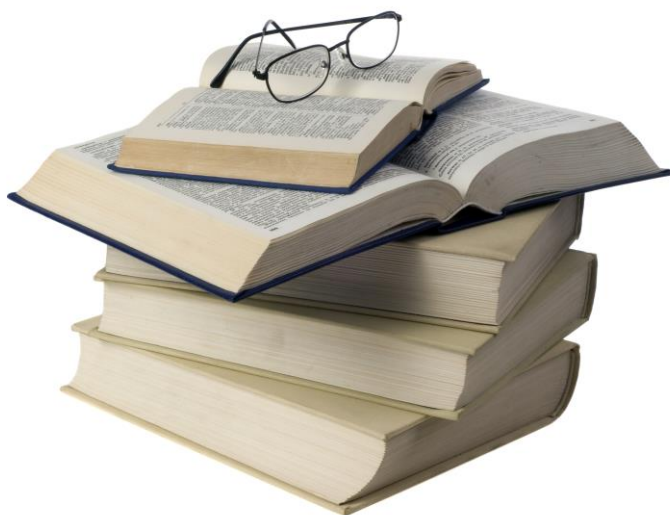


BOOKS AND THEIR FUTURE¹

"Paper books will not disappear², their sales³ are growing," says Vít Richter, the director⁴ of the **National Library** of the Czech Republic.

March is the **month of readers**. The Czech Republic has the best network⁵ of libraries **in the world**. The National Library in Prague is a **cultural monument**. National Libraries exist also in other countries, for example in Germany. The best national libraries are in ex-socialist European countries and in the Baltics⁶.



It is also true that younger people, especially students, read more books than older people. There are many readers in the Czech Republic, but people in Scandinavia, mainly⁷ in Finland and Sweden, but also in Canada, read even more.

But the library system in the Czech Republic has some problems, too. There aren't enough⁸ employees, because they have very **low salaries**. Libraries need people also **because of** digitalization, which can save⁹ printed books for the future.

Vocabulary:¹budoucnost|²zmizet|³prodej|⁴ředitel|⁵síť|⁶Pobaltí|⁷hlavně|⁸dostatek|⁹zachránit

Language notes: National Library=Národní knihovna|month of readers=měsíc čtenářů|in the world=na světě|cultural monument=kulturní památka|low salary=nízký plat|because of=kvůli

Sources: radiozurnal.cz