“Massimo Severo Giannini” Institute for the Study of Regionalism, Federalism and Self-Government

Library

Apostolic Vatican Library. Vatican City
Vergilius Romanus. Folio 14 recto - III portrait of Virgil – 5th century
To his right the *capsa* for papyrus rolls, to his left the *scripторium*
The ISSIRFA Library was set up in 1971 when the Institute for Regional Studies (now ISSIRFA) was established. Its holdings are of great value for regionalism and federalism and are quite unique at the national level.

In particular, the holdings include documents on Public Law, Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, Regional Law, European Union Law, Political Science, Health, Finance and Economics, especially concerning aspects that are important for the Regions. The holdings also include:

- all the Official Regional Journals, bound in single volumes, from 1970 to 2011, the year when the Regions started to publish their Journals online. All the regional laws from 1975 to 2013 have been thoroughly studied and categorized;
- the Regional Budgets from 1972 to 2013. Using the analysis and processing of data concerning the Regional Budgets, the Institute has created the Financial Regional Observatory.

At present the Library contains about 25000 monographs plus the Temistocle Martines Donation and the Antonio D’Athena Collection, former Directors of the Institute, and the Angelo Maconio Donation that includes books of great historic value, many of which date back to the first half of the 20th century.

Today about 100 periodicals, and 500 over time, are examined and articles in line with the research topics of the Institute and articles concerning topical administrative and institutional issues are selected. This activity started in 1975 and over time a corpus of about 40000 categorized articles has been created that traces the institutional, political and administrative history of the last 40 years.

During the last decade, the section dedicated to European law and European policies has considerably expanded, with the addition of publications in foreign languages.

Starting from 1990, all accessions have been entered into the “Biblo” database that constitutes the basis for the online Catalogue that is available on the website of the Institute. Updates to the online Catalogue are made through the “Newsletter on Library accessions” (ISSN 2282-4693), that began in the 1980s and is updated periodically (June and December of every year).

Moreover, the website of the Institute offers access to special bibliographies of the accessions to the Library by subject-matter: European Constitution, Constitutional Reform, Subsidiarity, Title V.

The Library has been a member of the National Collective Archive of Periodicals (ACNP) since 1992, of ESSPER (Association of socio-economic-legal-historic Libraries) since 2011, and of NILDE (Network Interlibrary Document Exchange) since 2013. These bodies share their bibliographic resources for the development of inter-library cooperation through the Document Delivery services.

The Library of the former ISRDS Institute (Institute of Studies on Research and Scientific Documentation) was taken over in 2006. It comprises about 5000 monographs and 400 periodicals that are now out of print and that focus on the Science of Documentation. The Library contains rare items on the origins and development of this disciplinary field. At present it is only a conservation Library, even though it can be accessed and offers Document delivery services.
HOLDINGS
- Volumes: 25,000
- Current periodicals: about 100
- Total periodicals held: about 500
- Temistocle Martines Donation: 700 legal texts; periodicals, selections
- Antonio D’Atena Holding
- Fondo Angelo Maconio: 155 legal texts
- Official Journals of the Regions: full collection from 1970 to 2011
- Official Journals of the Republic of Italy: from 1958 to 2010
- Official Journals of the European Community: from 1972 to 2003
- Collections of the budgets and financial reports of the Regions and of the Autonomous Provinces
- Library of the former ISRDS Institute on scientific research and documentation
- DE JURE – Online legislative, case law and European law Database

CATALOGUES
- The online BIBLO catalogue
- Database of books and articles from periodicals since 1990
- Database of national laws and regulations from 2001 to 2012
- Database of the main regional deliberations from 2004 to 2010
- Systematically arranged and alphabetical card catalogue of books from 1972 to 2013
- Systematically arranged and alphabetical card catalogue of articles up to 2000
- Systematically arranged and alphabetical card catalogue of regional legislation from 1975 to 2006
PUBLICATIONS OF THE LIBRARY
- Newsletter on accessions to the Library (monographs and categorized articles from journals) on paper medium since the 1980s (ISSN 2282-4693)
- Online bibliographies: European Constitution, Constitutional Reform, Reform of Title V, Subsidiarity

SERVICES OFFERED
- free access to scholars and students
- items can be searched and read on site
- help is offered for searching the databases
- help is offered for bibliographic searches
- document delivery service
- loans (only internal)
- photocopying is allowed in compliance with the law

The library is open to visitors from 9.30 to 13.30 hours and is closed during the Christmas and Easter holidays and during the month of August.

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