

## **NOKS, a searchable, cultural, historical Database with contributions from Archives, Libraries and Museums. ALM co-operation in Denmark**

Ruth Hedegaard

In Denmark, as in other countries, there has been growing interest in cooperation between archives, libraries and museums, promoting a cross-strategy that results in giving people access to our cultural heritage.

There have been several projects leading in that direction, among them the creation of the database NOKS (Nordjyllands kulturhistoriske Søgabase).

NOKS is a searchable database that gives the possibility of searching simultaneously in the collections of three different types of heritage institutions, archives, libraries and museums. The first edition of the database includes the digital catalogue records of 9 institutions, in all 115.000 records, 8.000 of them with photographs attached. Many different items such as printed material, books, leaflets, articles, newspapers and news clippings, archives, sound records, films, videos, museum artefacts etc. are included in the database.

The records have been collected from the individual databases of the three types of institutions with their different forms of cataloguing. These records have been imported into one common database.

A new update will be released very soon with several improvements and alterations, the participation of another Danish county (Vejle) and the decision to use Dublin Core as the basic structure.

The creation of NOKS has shown the importance of developing standards in the field of cultural history, and several attempts have subsequently been made in that direction.

NOKS [www.noks.dk](http://www.noks.dk) is available on the Internet, free of charge.