

## **The impact of Latvian exile literature on research in Latvia: issues in data collection**

Approximately 11,250 titles were published by Latvian authors outside Latvia from 1945 to 1991. Because of Soviet control and censorship, this literature was generally unavailable in Latvia until Latvia regained its independence in 1991.

The use of exile literature by Latvian researchers and its impact on Latvian research are examined in this research. Citation analyses of research literature and surveys of Latvian researchers and libraries were carried out.

The focus of this presentation will be on issues to do with the data collection for citation analysis. In order to study the impact of exile literature, research literature from different subject fields over a fifteen-year period (1992-2006) was examined. Data were collected manually. Many decisions regarding literature selection had to be made (e.g., choice of material, language, origin, year of publication). All selected subject fields were from social sciences or the arts and humanities; therefore, issues related to the citation practices in these areas were also considered.

The main challenges in literature selection and data collection will be presented, as well as the solutions and principles adopted.

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