# The effects of extraordinary pandemic access to digitized collection

COVID 19 temporary "open access"

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## ENGLISH X CZECH E-BOOKS

#### Charles Uni

- A small percentage of e-books available in Czech, not every field of education is covered
- Needs of basic study texts in Czech (absolutely essential for some fields, e.g. pedagogy)

#### Czech language

- o Small language group
- o Internationalization of publishing habits the trend to publish in English
- No national-level service (both commercial and uncommercial) for academic/library e-book access
  - Platforms often offer access only for the individual user
  - $_{\rm O}$  Problem authentication

# COVID: NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY (DL)

#### March 2020

 Super-fast agreement between National Library and <u>Theatre,</u> <u>Literary, Audiovisual Agency, Association</u>

 DL was opened for universities via edulD (Czech academic identity federation) - this access was based on agreements between National Library and universities

 $\circ$  "Social" DRM

 $\circ$  No printing

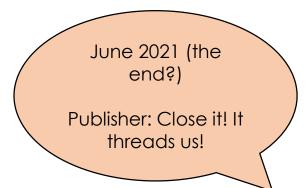
 $_{\circ}$  No downloading

...really turbulent days...

June 2021

o DL was closed (unconditionally)

Beginning of the pandemic Everyone: "We can handle this!"



## UNIVERSITY PRESS: EXPERIENCES

Increase interest and awareness of e-books

Extension of license agreements for printed editions by e-form

- The quality e-book can be a reason for interest in a printed book
  - $_{\odot}$  Readers are interested in quality, not in material type

Charles Uni e-books (Karolinum University Press)

Available for Charles Uni's students: EBSCO & ProQuest platform

For different users: cooperation with other platform (for some publication)

+ SSO

- can be expen\$ive

## VIOLATION OF THE DL LICENSE TERMS

o8 000+ unique users from Charles Uni

- $\circ$  3 violation of the DL terms cases suspicion for robotic downloading
- 2 actual violations misuse of open source code and its modification for personal use
- o 1 super-interested and persistent reader manual downloading of huge data amount for language researches

 $\circ$  0 unauthorized distribution

#### → The "open access" is not abused as often as publishers fear

#### 

○ We were (involuntary) part of the huge e-resource experiment in the CR
 → it helped to confirm some of the long-term assumption

COVID enhanced the interest in DL

COVID enhanced the interest in e-resources in general

- The main target for professional publication is the academic community
  ➔ confirmed
- The Ministry of Education emphasizes the availability of educational texts in the Czech language for students in the ministry's strategies
- Publishers prepared for academic access (SSO) have an advantage
  → confirmed
- o Trials (not only COVID ones) can be decision changers
  ➔ confirmed

 o "Social" DRM works - maybe even better than technical one, which is often very expensive→ confirmed

## → BE SAFE & BE PREPARED!