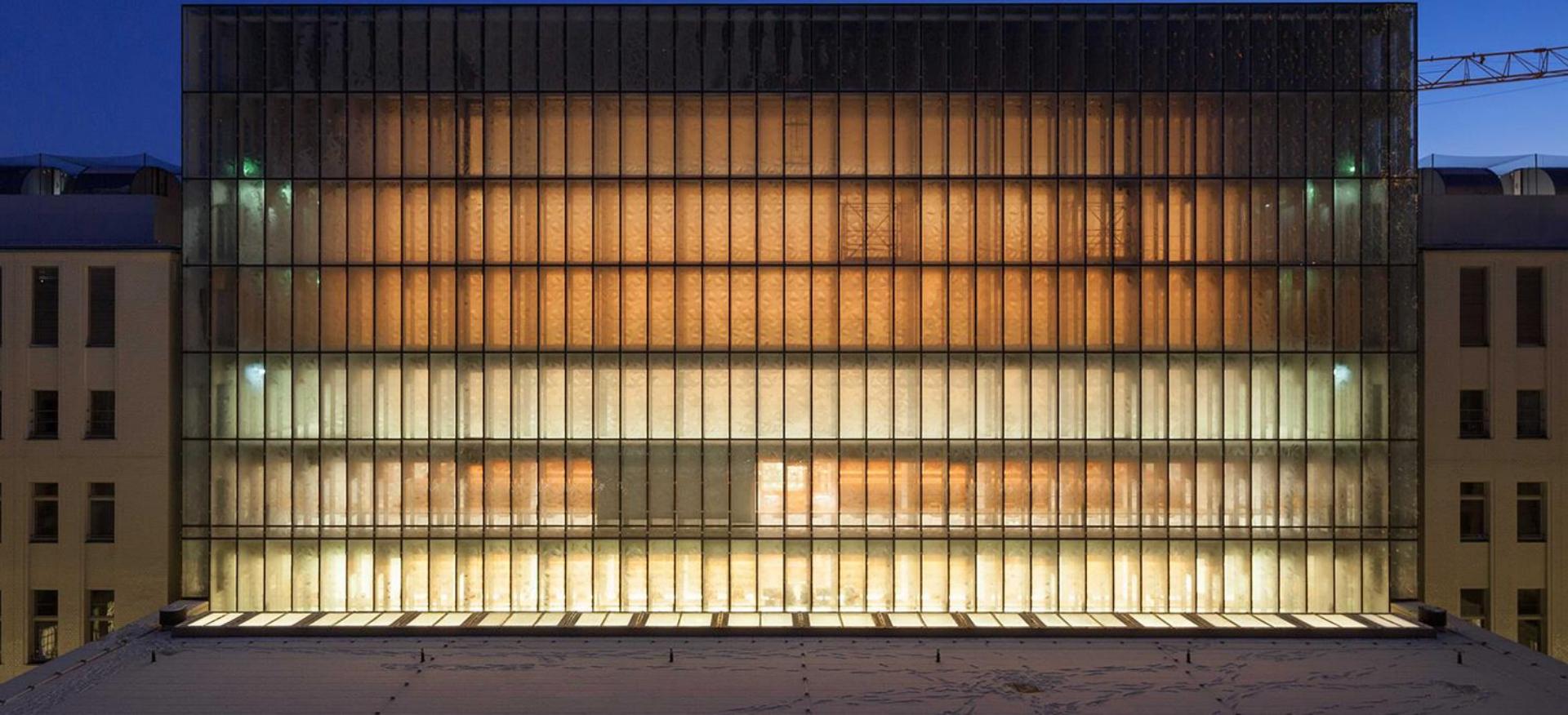


The “Vuk-Collection” of South Slav manuscripts of the Berlin State Library



Staatsbibliothek
zu Berlin
Preußischer Kulturbesitz

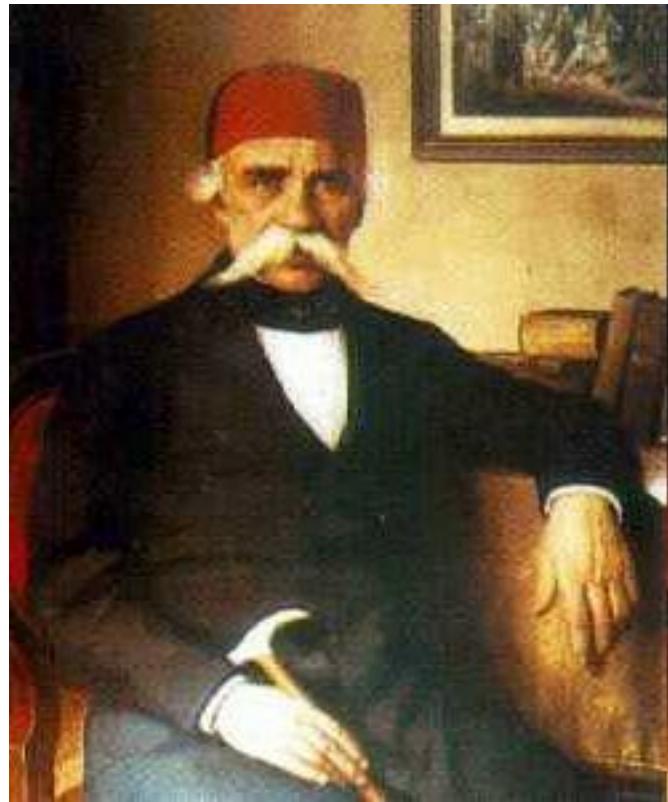
46th International ABDOS Conference, Belgrade, May 17, 2017



Overview

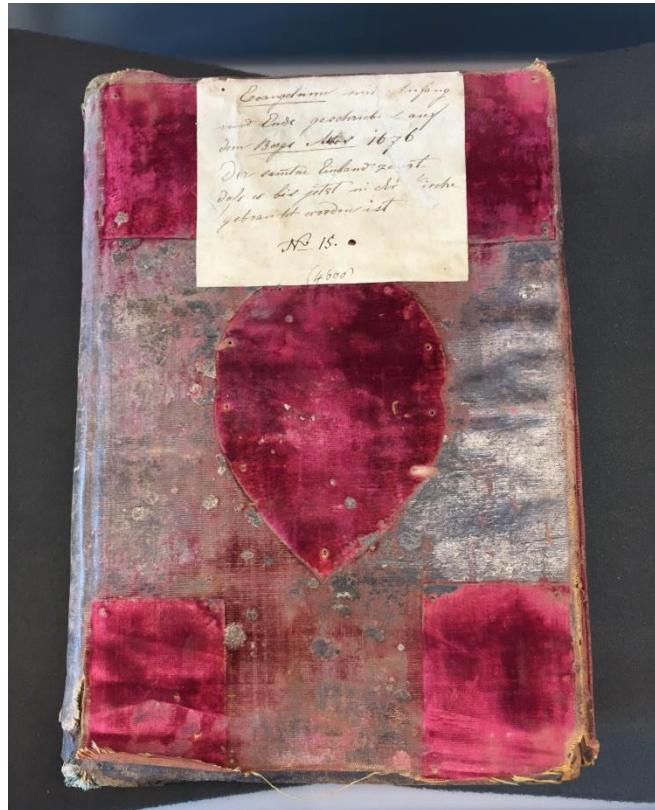
- Vuk Stefanović Karadžić
- The Vuk-Collection
 - Content and volume
 - Provenance
 - Condition
 - Acquisition
- Digitization





Vuk Stefanović Karadžić (1787 – 1864)

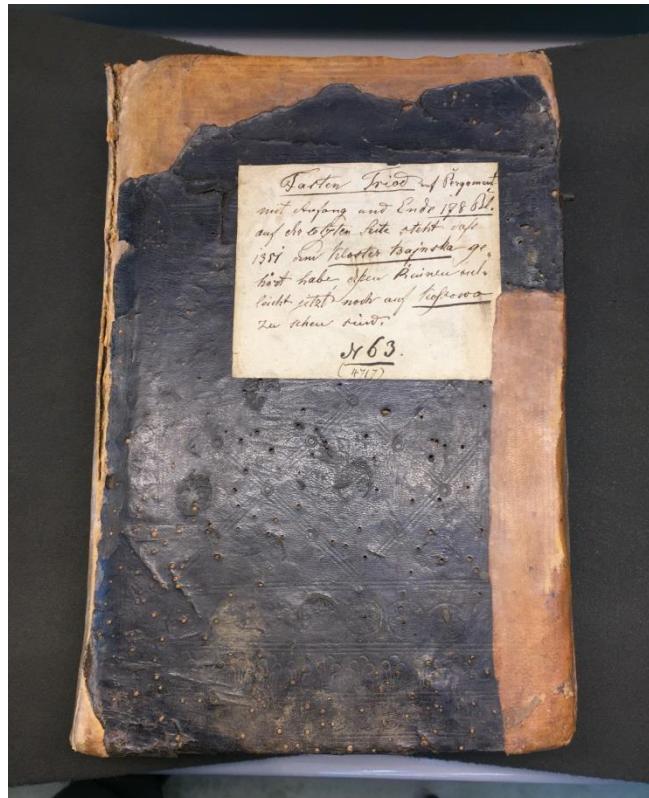
- Philologist, language reformer, ethnologist
- Founder of modern Serbian language
„Пиши као што говориш!“
- Extensive collection activity of folk songs and fairy tales in Serbia and Eyalet Bosnia
- Collection activity of ecclesiastical writings, antiquarian trade



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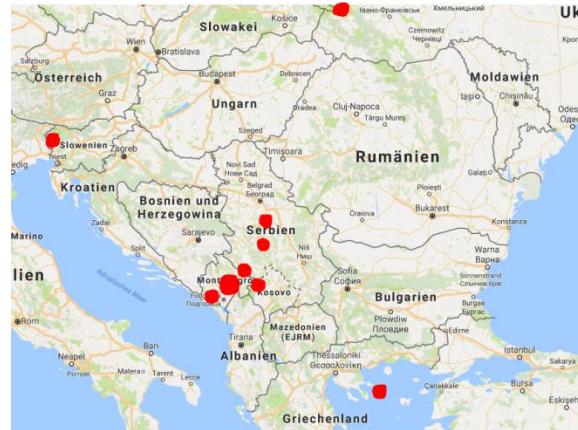
Content and volume of the Vuk-Collection

- 49 manuscripts from the 13th to the 18th century, 47 in serbian church slavonic, 2 in bulgarian church slavonic redaction
- Ecclesial-theological content
 - Tetra- and aprakos gospels
 - Psalters, euchologions, apostolos
 - Synaxaria, pandektes, triodions and menaions
- Volume: more than 11.800 leaves (quarto and octavo format)



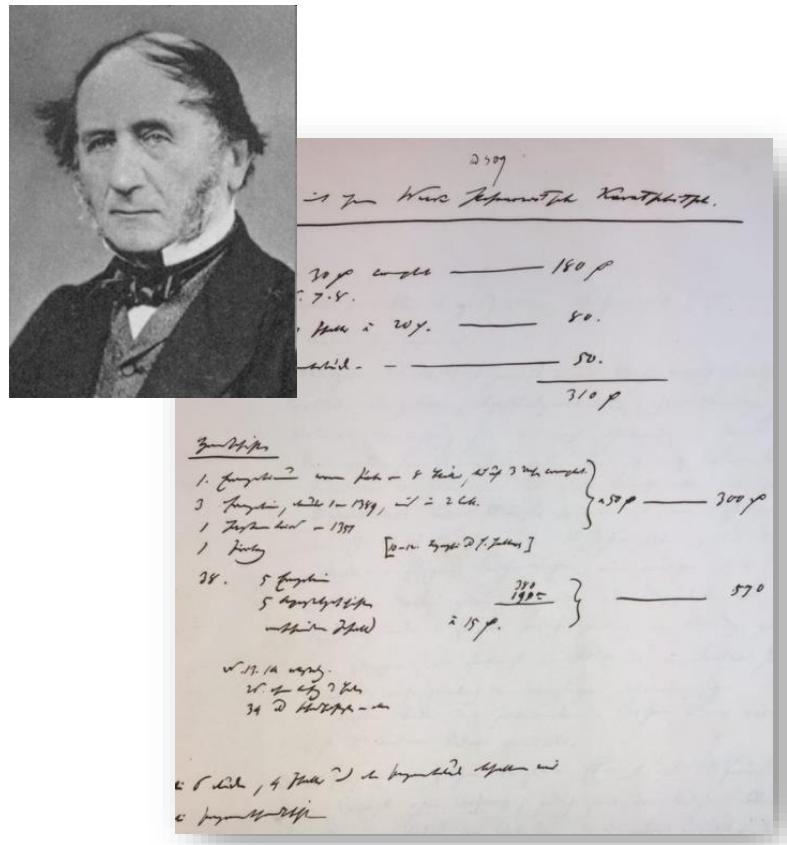
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Provenance of the Vuk-Collection



Physical condition

- Essentially in good condition
- Restoration measures necessary
- Well digitizable



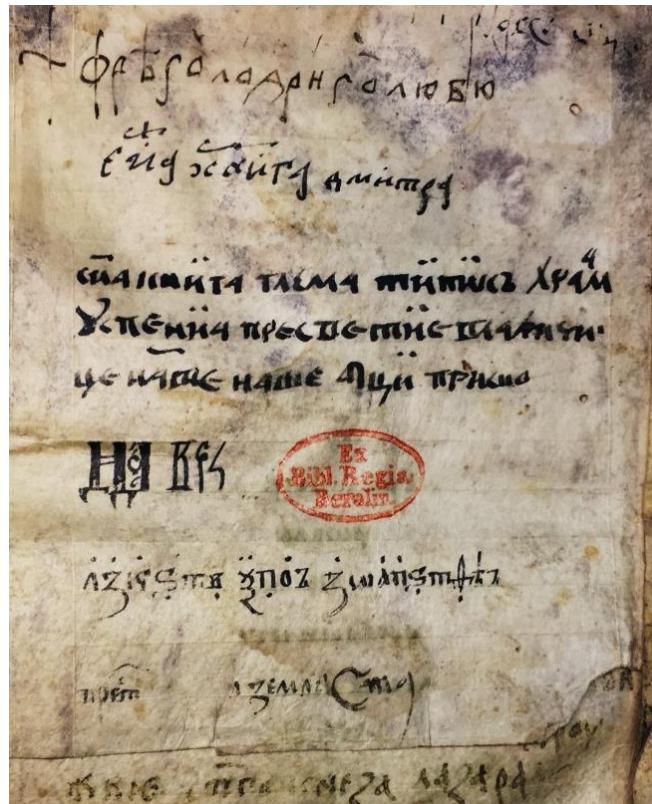
Georg Heinrich Pertz (1795 - 1876)

- Head librarian of the Royal Library in Berlin
- Editor of Monumenta Germaniae Historica
- Via Bartholomäus Kopitar close ties to South-East Europe
- 1854 to 1858 purchase of 49 volumes via Karadžić's children Wilhelmine and Dmitrije
- Price 1575 Talers
- Goal: to create a „Bibliothek Slavischer Litteratur“ (Pertz)

Georg Heinrich Pertz, 1856

„Ein solcher Fall ist in diesem Jahre eingetreten, indem ich das Anerbieten des berühmten Serbischen Gelehrten Wuk Stephanowitsch Karadschitsch zu Wien zum Ankauf der kostbaren Bibliothek Slavischer Handschriften und Drucke, welche er [...] in Gegenden, die von Europäischen Reisenden fast nie besucht werden, unter günstigen Umständen gesammelt hat, im Interesse der Königlichen Bibliothek, welche eine solche Gelegenheit zum Erwerb dieser äußerst seltenen Drucke und merkwürdigen Handschriften in der altslawischen Kirchensprache nicht wieder geboten werden dürfte, zu benutzen als Pflicht erkannte.“

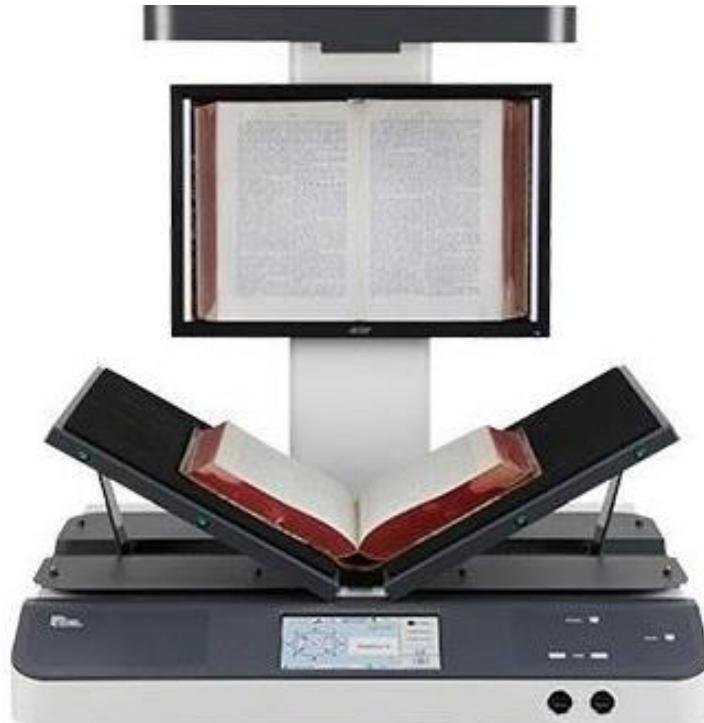
Acta Rep. 76 V d, Sekt. 31, Bd. 9, Bl. 242-243.



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Scientific value of the Vuk-Collection

- Unique portfolio of church slavonic literature over 3 centuries
- Data material for corpus linguistics
- Textual basis for comparatistics
- Material for provenance research and culturalhistorical studies
 - e.g. culture of Slavia Orthodoxa



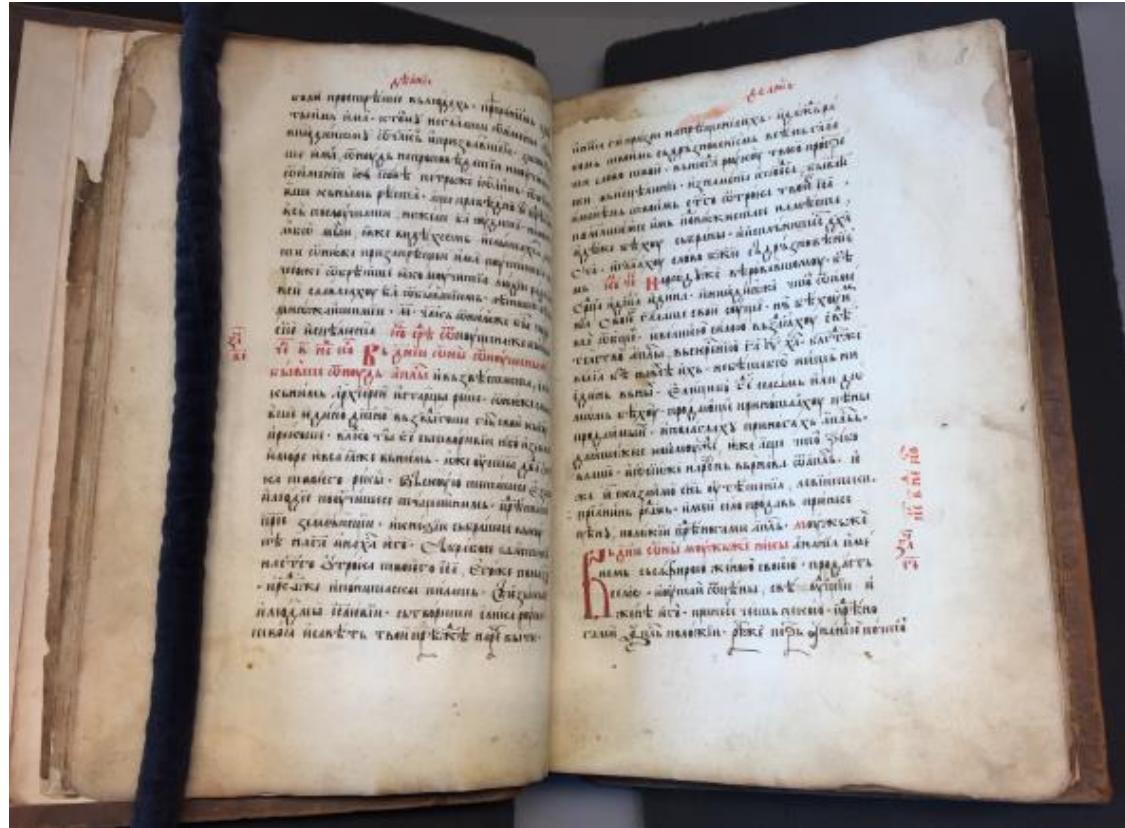
Digital assets at the Berlin State Library

- More than 120.000 digital items in portfolio
- 250 church slavica planned
- In-house digitization center
 - 20 employees
 - Scanners for old prints
 - Well going workflow
 - Experiences with manuscripts



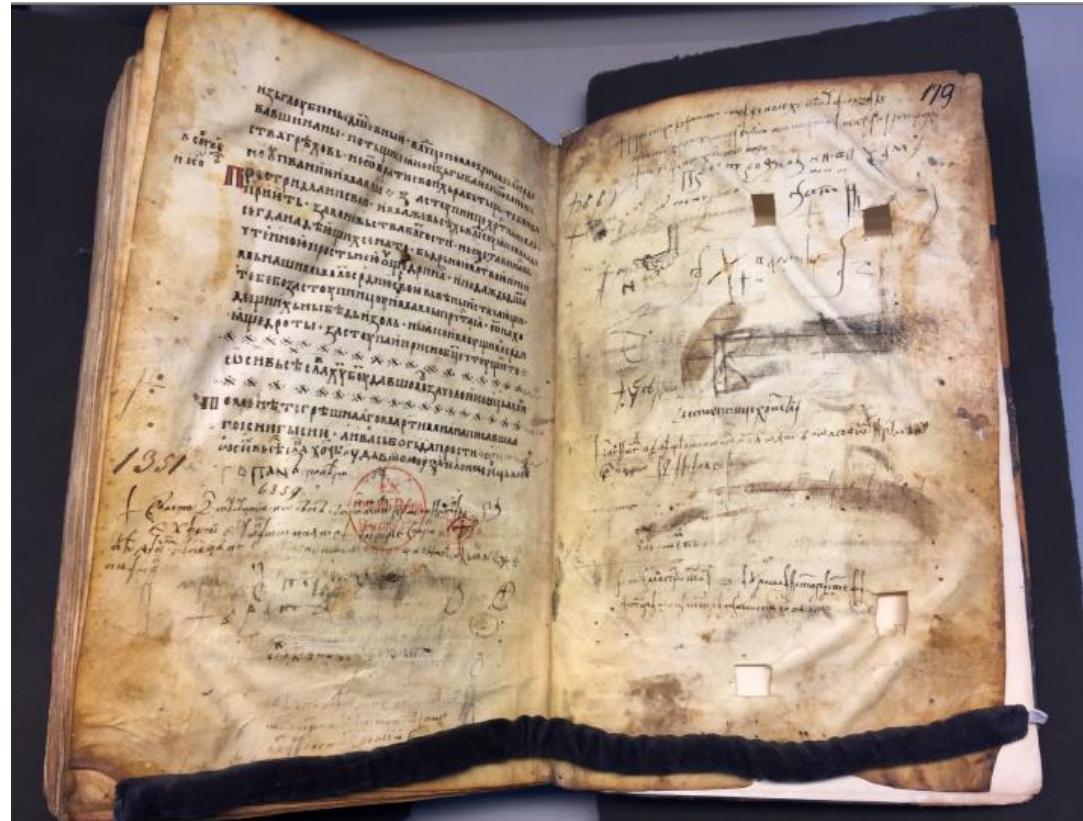
Digitization of the Vuk-Collection

- Vuk-Collection not yet digitized
- Size approx. 11.800 leaves
 - 9300 pages paper
 - 2500 pages parchment
- Main goals
 - Securing for posterity
 - Complete subject indexing including structural data
 - Bibliographic description
 - Conversion into textual form (OCR?)



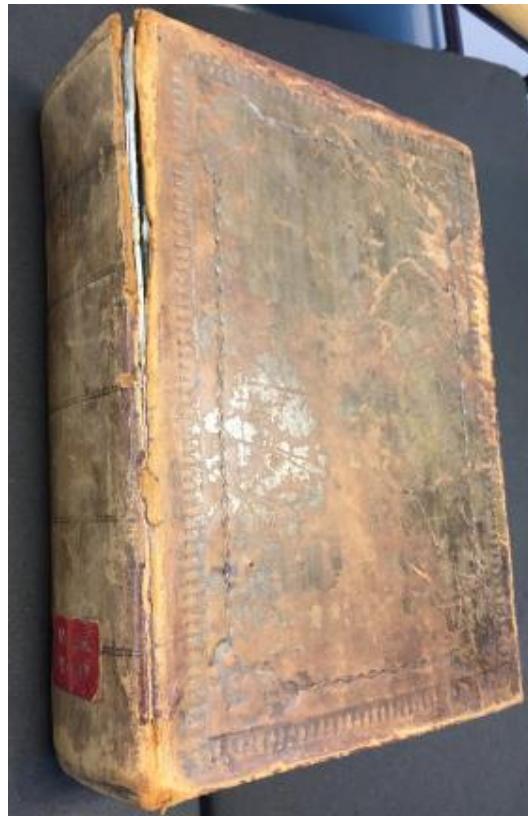
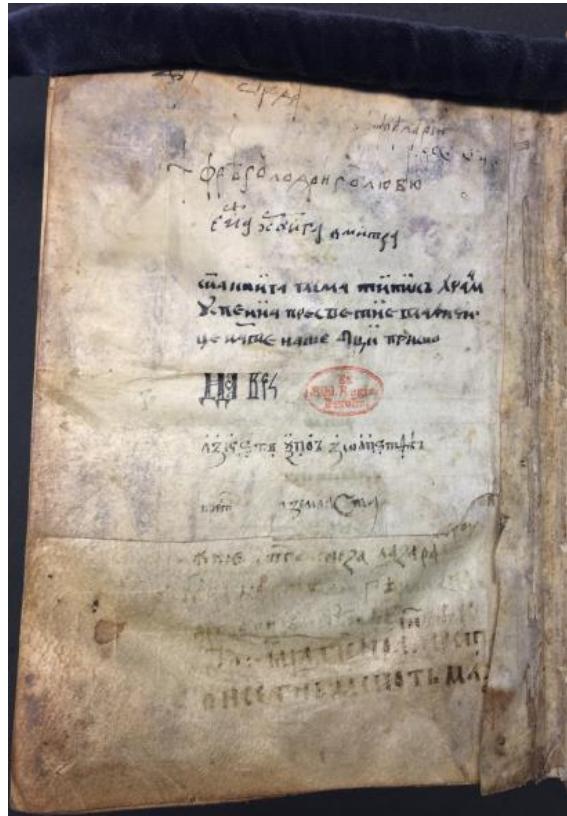
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- Apostolos
- Serbian church slavonic
- 186 leaves
- Paper
- 30 x 20,5 cm
- Year 1599
- Monastery Šudikovo?



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- Theotokarion
- Serbian church slavonic
- 179 leaves
- Parchment
- 31 x 21 cm
- Year 1351
- Monastery Banjska?
- Various notices of possession



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- Typikon
- Serbian church slavonic
- 275 leaves
- Parchment
- 21 x 15 cm
- Year 1331
- Monastery Hilandar



Many thanks for your attention!

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