



I C O N

The International Coalition on Newspapers

For immediate release
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National Endowment for the Humanities Awards Funding to the International Coalition on Newspapers for Preservation of Latin American Newspapers

(Chicago, IL) The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded the Center for Research Libraries a \$350,000 Preservation and Access grant to assist the continuing work of the International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON).

The award supports the next phase of ICON's work which will be to preserve and improve access to Latin American newspapers in U.S. repositories. While ICON has used its resources to preserve Latin American newspapers in the past, this phase of the project will focus exclusively on Latin America, including the preservation of nine newspaper titles from Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

This phase of ICON (<http://icon.crl.edu>) will also include digitization of key reference sources on international newspapers; expansion of the database of international newspapers; cataloging at institutions with extensive Latin American holdings; and expansion of the ICON Web site content.

The Center plays a central role in the ICON effort, which is a partnership with the Library of Congress, Library and Archives Canada, The British Library, and several major North American research Libraries with significant holdings of foreign newspapers. ICON has been administered by the Center since 1999.

Newspaper titles selected for preservation filming will be drawn from the print collections of several U.S. institutions to create longer runs and fill gaps of missing papers. The database currently provides bibliographic and holdings data for almost 25,000 foreign newspaper titles. During the next phase, ICON will seek the addition of records from at least 15 institutions with substantial Latin American holdings.

ICON staff will examine key Latin American bibliographic sources, such as Steven M. Charno's *Latin American Newspapers in United States Libraries* to identify titles that need cataloging and add them to the ICON database and other national bibliographic utilities.

The Center for Research Libraries (<http://www.crl.edu>) is a global network of libraries and universities that ensures persistent access to primary source material for humanities, science and technology, and social science research.

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