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E-journal and Open Access Journal Publishing in the Humanities: Preliminary Results from a Survey among Byzantine Studies Scholars

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National Documentation Centre (EKT)

- National Facility for the aggregation, documentation of Science and Technology content and for information and support services on science, research and technology issues (<u>www.ekt.gr</u>).
- Part of the National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF)
- Core activities: strengthen and support digitally enabled research
 - research e-infrastructure for content that includes e-journals, developed in collaboration with the scientific publishers (research institutes and scientific societies).





Emphasis in the Humanities

- Enhance e-research (Humanists still heavily rely on the print medium)
- Digitize and preserve content
- Make content widely available (open access)
- Improve rate of penetration of research produced in Greek with regional (mostly Hellenic) focus in international literature
- Thus far 5 e-journals (3 peer-reviewed, 2 newsletters)
- 4 more peer-reviewed by end of 2011
- 6 more by the end of 2012
- +e-books
- www.openaccess.gr





Byzantina Symmeikta

- Flagship journal, first e-journal for EKT, first fully online and openly accessible e-journal in the Humanities in Greece
- www.byzsym.org







Byzantina Symmeikta Survey

- 5 September to 5 December 2010
- Aims
 - Assess needs and satisfaction from e-journal online operation
 - Assess scholarly attitudes about and practices in publishing in e-journals and open access journals among scholars in Byzantine Studies





Survey and Responses

- Online survey
 - Emails invitation with dedicated links to 1488 individuals in Greece and abroad.
 - Available online at the journal's website.
- Responses
 - 133= 8.93% (via email)
 - -25 online
 - total =10.6%.







Respondent profiles







Country of residence/work















Respondent professional rank





Use of e-journals





Frequency



Greece

All results





Frequency by rank



All results

Greece





Value of e-journal features

	Very Important	Important	Indifferent	Not very important	Not important
Addition of data and data sets to articles	17.4%	40.4%	25.7%	10.1%	6.4%
Ability to annotate papers online and save annotations	15.6%	46.8%	21.1%	12.8%	3.7%
Ability to link to cited items in the text and/or bibliography	42.6%	41.7%	13.0%	1.7%	0.9%
Ability to comment on papers	7.2%	30.6%	30.6%	24.3%	7.2%
Download articles to your computer	66.9%	28.0%	2.5%	2.5%	0.0
Download articles to e-book reader or smartphone	17.0%	25.9%	27.7%	14.3%	15.2%
Printing of articles	55.1%	30.5%	8.5%	4.2%	1.7%
Ability to export bibliographies from articles	27.7%	53.8%	12.6%	5.0%	0.8%
Article-level usage statistics	7.2%	28.8%	37.8%	13.5%	12.6%
Information about works citing an article published in the journal	23.0%	47.8%	17.7%	8.8%	2.7%
Links to work citing an article published in the journal	34.7%	50.0%	11.0%	3.4%	0.8%





E-journal and Open access journal publishing: attitudes and practices







72.0 %

120

100

80

E-journals







Open access journals



Would publish



Have published







Have published in e-journals and OA journals: age groups



E-journals

OA journals





Conclusion

- Optimism: re: e-publishing and OA publishing in the Byzantine Studies, many more developments soon
- Positive attitudes but much less actual experience
- More developments in e-scholarship to be expected
- But.....
- Changes in established disciplinary cultures also required





Thank you!

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