

### WP3.1: Overview of Current State Report

### **Current Status Survey on Greece**

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### Abstract

This study constitutes an assessment of the Greek Government's strategy on digital research and an attempt to evaluate its policies with respect to the arts and humanities. Its core element is the survey conducted to explore the awareness of institutions on the subject of digital humanities and their intention to possibly engage in and contribute to the DARIAH e-infrastructure. A questionnaire was developed to support this aim. The survey results enable the identification of the key policy makers and an evaluation of the current status regarding digital scholarship in the arts and humanities.

The survey was launched by the Academy of Athens, on a desk research basis, and its duration was three (3) months (between August and October 2009).

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### 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Survey background and goals

The present current status survey constitutes a part of a broader research, which was also conducted in two other European DARIAH partner countries (Ireland and Slovenia). The research results are intended to provide information for the formulation of the DARIAH implementation strategy. The Greek study attempts to draw a comprehensive picture of the national strategy on digital research. This picture is the outcome of desk research, in which the primary set of questions to be answered were whether Greece has developed a cultural policy for the arts and humanities and to what extent are organizations aware of digital humanities as a new methodology. Furthermore, an important objective of the survey was to determine the level of their awareness, since this information will be a valuable guide for the ways in which these organizations will be approached or engaged for the future of DARIAH. For this purpose a questionnaire was planned and addressed to a selection of research centres and policy makers.

### 1.2. Defining Arts and Humanities in Greece

The traditional and long established arts and humanities disciplines in Greece cover the following domains: archaeology, history, philosophy, theology, linguistics, literature, music, folklore, ethnology, performing and visual arts. Study, research and teaching represent the key action areas for each one of these domains. The same action areas form the fundamental constituents of the digital humanities methodological approach, whereas the production of knowledge involves investigation, analysis, synthesis and presentation of knowledge, all with the use of digital media.

In the particular case of Greece, digital humanities or e-humanities are newly imported terms used by a limited number of researchers working in research centres and by even fewer scholars in the broader community of humanists. However, gradually, changes in scholarly environment have occurred, mainly as a result of EU-funded initiatives, such as a number of large scale digitization projects that took place during the last decade. Largely thanks to these initiatives and the resulting availability of masses of digital resources, computer technologies were integrated into the research practice of the academic and research institutions, museums, collections and archives. But this is only the beginning of a series of steps that have to be taken in the direction of promoting digital scholarship. While some progress has been made, it has



been slowed down by an outdated institutional framework as well as by limitations in funding. However, the scholarly community in Greece is now aware of the need for a digital research framework and initiatives are under way to create such a framework that will relate to and cooperate with a European scholarship network.

### 2. Methodology

### 2.1. The Survey's Framework

The mission of the survey is twofold: to identify the national policy makers and assess their policy statements, and to contact individual institutions engaged in the arts and humanities in order to investigate the grounds for further cooperation. The objectives of the survey on the one hand and time limitations and means at our disposal on the other, determined the methodology we adopted. Two main activities supported the research: internet desk research and a survey questionnaire. The desk research entailed an investigation of institutions and public agencies, museums and research centres, in order to obtain information on their role and contribution to the formulation and implementation of a digital research strategy in Greece. The resulting list was filtered and the selected institutions received the survey questionnaire, which is the second part of the study. This activity was performed through direct contact with these organizations, using an open source web-based application designed to support online survey questionnaires.

### 2.2. Tools used to support the research

The internet research involved a commonly used procedure through "google search" and the following of links to other links. The starting point was the use of keywords leading to national sites, which in turn provided other specific and/or relevant links. Besides, a decision had to be taken on the method to be used for storing and managing all these information links and the documents that resulted from them. A plethora of digital bibliographical tools that were available on line were evaluated. The final selection of *zotero* was determined by its high rated reviews and a test on our part to confirm that it met the survey's requirements.

A similar research process was also adopted for the selection of a tool that creates survey questionnaires, consulting public reviews and performing test trials. Indeed, this was a far more complicated task, since it involved testing more than one applications on a variety of query types, their export and administration possibilities, as well as their limitations on the



number of participants and on data preservation.

Experimentation for the selection of the questionnaire tool began on 5 July 2009 and the final selection of the tool and the creation of the survey were completed on July 10th. Then began the task of e-mailing the on-line questionnaire link to the selected recipients. The survey questionnaire was addressed to 100 institutions. Thirty one (31) responses were received between August 4th and October 14th. Five (5) of them preferred the traditional analog method of printing, filling out and sending the questionnaire via post. Many questionnaires (47) were partially completed, while fifty one (51) appeared abandoned (no fields were completed). It has to be noted here that, only the fully completed questionnaires were taken into account in the analysis and the statistics.

The questionnaire consists of four (4) sections and twenty-three (23) questions. Ten (10) questions concern the organization profile and one more (in free text) refers to the objectives and strategy of the institution surveyed. The rest of the questions (nos. 12-23) are formatted so as to provide a range of options (forced-choice questions, multiple choice questions and check boxes with default values of expression and an option to complete an additional value). An effort has been made to combine the qualitative and the quantitative approach in order to represent both individual characteristics and common trends or percentages.

### 2.3. Selection of the Survey Participants

Prior to the selection of the survey participants, in order to aggregate all organizations possibly involved in the humanities and in the formulation of a related strategy, an initial survey was conducted. The outcome of this first survey was a list of diverse institutions (academic institutions, universities, museums, public agencies and cultural organizations). From this list we proceeded to the selection of the survey participants according to a number of premises. Having in mind the goals of the present study, a set of criteria were developed in order to proceed with the selection of the participants in the survey questionnaire.

The following criteria were taken into account:

- arts and humanities discipline(s) served
- type of institution (e.g. Archive, Library, Museum)
- institutional category (e.g. public, private sector)
- nationwide representation
- availability of material and provision of services on the web.



The criteria used for the selection of the prospective participants were also used to produce valuable statistical data and observations. Indeed, the features of the institutions that responded are revealing: Research centres (36%) and museums (30%) represent the highest rate of response compared to universities (7%), libraries (7%), government agencies (7%) and smaller collections and archives (10%). When it comes to disciplines, Archaeology (23%), History (27%) and Arts (26%) hold pride of place, while Linguistics and Folklore rank lower. The institutional legal status of most of the participants is from the public sector (60%) and non-profit organizations (30%), with the private sector hardly reaching a significant rate (10%). Respectively, as was expected, most of the participants are located in the capital of Greece, Athens (70%), another 20% in Thessaloniki, the second biggest city in Greece, and the rest in smaller cities. One is a Greek institution based abroad (Venice, Italy).

The statistical analysis attests to the genuine interest of research centres in digital humanities, while this is not the case for government agencies and smaller private foundations. Universities are not adequately represented in the survey, a fact that cannot be attributed to a lack of interest on the part of the academic community. A plausible interpretation could be, not that universities turn their back on digital research, but rather that the questionnaire was addressed to departments and not to individuals (professors and other research and teaching staff), a procedure that did not encourage the expected response. The participation of a significant number of organizations of public legal status is a noteworthy fact, that could be interpreted as the first sign of awareness of the merits of digital scholarship. History, Archaeology and Arts appear to be more mature than the other disciplines with regard to the adoption of digital scholarship, with their percentages equally distributed, while Linguistics and Folklore studies appear less involved.

The statistical results are available in the Appendix C: Participant's Categorization.

### 2.4. Survey Constraints and Limitations

Our decisions on how and when the survey should be carried out were largely determined by time constraints and the availability of tools. The period of three (3) months was considered adequate for the conduct of the survey. An important negative factor for the outcome of the investigation was that it had to be performed during the summer months, a period when most people take their leaves and organizations tend to function at a slower pace. This and the need to approach a very large number of participants (approx. 100) were the two basic reasons, for which the research was based exclusively on digital media and not on face-to-face interviews.



A few additional words are necessary on the methodology that was adopted. Considerable thought was given to the formulation of the questions of the questionnaire, with the aim of obtaining answers with the desired precision. Questionnaires normally include an assortment of forced-choice questions (e.g. True-False) or open-ended questions (e.g. short answer essay), to which participants are asked to respond. No doubt, certain assumptions were necessarily made while drafting the questionnaire, in order to get answers to questions that required a statement on the participants' part. Although considerable care was taken to produce a clearly stated questionnaire, it is quite possible that the use of a certain terminology with which the digital humanist is well acquainted may have caused some confusion among people with little or no familiarity with the subject.

### 3. Digital Strategy: The Greek road towards digital research

### 3.1. Overview

The arts and humanities disciplines in Greece have a long history in teaching and research practice in established academic institutions, organizations, research centres and learned societies. The majority of them have demonstrated a keen interest in the advantages of digitization. They have welcomed the EU funded initiatives on content digitization and have participated in a plethora of projects. The emphasis of the calls was on public use of the digitized material and on bulk digitization. Yet, standards and best practice guidelines were late to appear and when they did, they were not adopted by all beneficiaries. Indeed, in some cases, institutions laid emphasis on bulk digitization ignoring best practice guidelines, while in other cases best practice guidelines were adopted, but institutions were skeptical as to the use rights and the extent of exploitation, accessibility and presentation of the digital content.

Digitized resources are indeed a prerequisite for digital research, which has already begun in Greece. Internationally, digital research and teaching methods are being rapidly transformed by progressive humanists willing to experiment in the direction of a more communicative and productive research model. On the the other hand, Greek scholars in the arts and humanities still tend to adhere to the traditional research path and seem to only slowly experiment with and adopt new methods of digital scholarship.

So far, although the quantity of the digitized material and the adoption of international documentation standards has been achieved to a satisfactory extent, a systematic and organized normalization effort is required, before we can fully exploit the available wealth of digital



resources and before we can contribute to the elaboration of new digital research methods. Universities and Research Centres are the main protagonists of humanistic research in Greece, and some of the institutions in question have already demonstrated an outstanding performance in developing tools and methods of digital scholarship.

Twenty-two universities are the main research institutions in all disciplines (including arts and humanities). Together, universities and public research centres are responsible for 69% of the Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D, while private R&D performers have the lowest share (approximately 30% of GERD) among the EU member states (DG Research, 2008).

### 3.2. National Government agencies

Research policy in Greece is formulated by a limited number of state institutions and agencies. First of all, the Ministry of Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping is the authority responsible for the central management of the Structural Funds and distributes them to ministries, thus being indirectly involved in Research & Development policy.

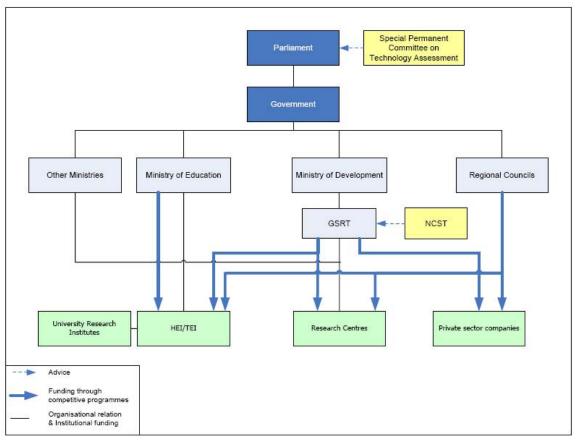
The General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), which until recently fell under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Development, is considered the main policymaker and the main funding agency. Recently, the General Secretariat for Research and Technology has been moved to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, a development that is expected to foster research in universities and to facilitate the formulation of a comprehensive research policy and its integration with teaching.

At present, the General Secretariat for Research and Technology supervises 12 of the 18 public research centres in Greece. The National Council for Research and Technology is the main advisory body for research policy and is attached to the General Secretariat for Research and Technology. The same body sets the priorities for research funding and advises on the selection of the Boards of Directors for the public research centres. One of its five departments acts as the advisory organ responsible for research in the social sciences and the humanities. At one point, the Greek Parliament also had a Special Permanent Committee on Technology Assessment, which operated occasionally and has finally been deactivated.

The diagram below represents the structure of the Greek research system before the recent government restructuring. Since then, the Ministry of Development has merged with the Ministry of Finance to form the Ministry of Finance, Competitiveness and Shipping, while the General Secretariat for Research and Technology has been transferred to the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs.



### Overview of the governance structure of the Greek research system



Source: **ERAWATCH** Research Inventory

The bodies responsible for Greek strategic planning for research and innovation are mainly concerned with applied research and its relationship with industry. Arts and humanities receive only cursory reference in the Greek strategic plan for research and technology and there is no government body specifically responsible for research planning for the humanities. Neither is there a comprehensive national digitization strategy, but rather individual digitization projects funded either by EU structural funds or other sources. There is not even a clear strategy that would provide guidelines to individual research institutes, museums, archives or collections for the documentation, digitization and preservation of digital cultural heritage, let alone an educational strategy for the encouragement of digital scholarship.

Basic research, humanistic research in particular, ranks very low in research strategy priorities. The lack of strategy in this field is manifested in the absence of major competitive calls for digitization projects targeted toward the arts and humanities, with the notable exception of the digitization projects completed in the context of the Operation Programme "Information



Society, 2000-2006". The reluctance of the state to systematically fund and coordinate digital research in the humanities is so far only partly compensated by sponsorships from banks and other private funding bodies. Uncoordinated projects initiated by research and cultural heritage institutions funded in this manner, however, are limited in scale and result in duplication of efforts and waste of resources. Furthermore, in many cases, once the projects were completed, institutions have been unable to finance the maintenance and curation of the digitized material.

Besides, a significant amount of research effort and funding is still concentrated in producing scholarly results in the traditional way, in print form, a method that is of limited use to digital scholarship. Signs of change are under way, but unless coordination is secured, these efforts will remain fragmentary, duplication will be unavoidable and, what is worse, maintenance and curation will remain problematic.

Recently, the Ministry of Culture to Ministry of Culture and Tourism published a draft strategic plan that outlines the main directions the Ministry intends to focus on. The vast digital cultural content created in the context of the Operation Programme "Information Society, 2000-2006" (200 websites with digital cultural content of hundreds of thousands of digitized documents, images, video, audio, film, three-dimensional objects and monuments), will be subjected to further elaboration to ensure the expansion, maintenance and easy and integrated access to it. The ambition of the Ministry of Culture is to convert the entire Greek cultural reserve into digital form and to ensure public access to cultural content. The vision is to create a National Cultural Knowledge Web, which will enable information sharing, training, knowledge transfer and provision of digital services to all Greek citizens and the international community.

Furthermore, in a broader perception of cultural politics, the Ministry will develop a National Strategy for Culture in the Fourth Community Support Framework. This strategy will encourage actions indirectly connected to arts and humanities research, such as: facilitating access to a scientifically selected and documented digital cultural content, the production, exchange and export of expertise, the ongoing design and implementation of innovative applications supporting culture. It will furthermore ensure interoperability between all systems that provide cultural content and services and the protection of intellectual property rights.

### 3.3. European Directives and Greek policy

European Framework Programmes have operated for 25 years, starting with the FP1 in 1982.



Over the last 13 years in particular, this funding instrument has enabled funding of various socio-economic sciences and humanities projects. The Research and Technology Development policy in Greece adopted the main strategic choices prescribed by the European Commission and the Operational Programmes aiming at convergence among EU Member States. So far policies have focused on the establishment of infrastructures, such as the National Research and Technology Network and the electronic infrastructures of the National Documentation Centre (NDC).

The National Documentation Centre is the national institution for documentation, information and support of scientific research and technology issues. It is integrated with the National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF) and is supervised by the General Secretariat for Research and Technology. It provides services to the country's entire scientific and business community, universities, research centres, enterprises and public and private sector institutions. It also offers advice and support to Greek organizations for participation in competitive European research programmes. The Centre receives funds from the state budget and the public investment programme, as well as from competitive national and European programmes.

Another important service that owes its existence to a European directive of the 2nd Framework Programme of the European Union (EU) was launched with the establishment of the Greek Research and Technology Network (GR-Net). The goal of GR-Net is to provide services of national and international interconnection and capacity to all educational and research institutions.

During the following programming period, the Greek Community Support Framework 2000-2006 covered the cultural domain among others. In that context, it aimed to maintain and upgrade museum infrastructures, improve museum services and showcase single monuments and archaeological sites. There was also priority for upgrading the technical infrastructure of services pertaining to the planning, implementation, financial management, inspection and assessment of the cultural sector. Some of the 93 projects approved under this scheme were: The New Acropolis Museum, the Cultural Centre for the Benaki Museum, the Mycenaean Museum Exhibition, The new Archaeological Museum in Ancient Olympia.

Its follow-up is the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013 and in particular the "Digital Convergence" Operational Programme that aims at Knowledge Society and Innovation, focusing on the improvement of the educational system and the promotion of innovation in all sectors for the restructuring of the economy and the transition to a knowledge economy. In a



broader sense, this strategy also applies to research and in particular to the humanities research community. It may therefore provide funding opportunities for the promotion of digital research in the arts and humanities.

Besides, as far as research in the stricter sense is concerned, during the last decade, the European Research Area (ERA) goals formulated by the EU in 2000 have been adopted by both the government and the academic community as an opportunity to share and contribute to international knowledge, to exploit sources of funding and increase the national research capacity. Gradually, Greece has become more aligned with the main targets of the ERA by promoting the mobility of researchers, opening-up national programmes to cross-border cooperation, participating in joint projects with other EU Member States within the framework of bilateral agreements, and most recently by participating in projects on the ESFRI roadmap, namely in the preparatory phase of 13 European Research Infrastructures. DARIAH, CLARIN, CESSDA and SHARE are the Social Science and Humanities RI Greece is involved in.

The Lisbon Strategy prescribes a policy, whereby humanities research must find a way to connect its research objectives and knowledge creation to economic and social development. The combination of humanities and socio-economic sciences can add value, develop new research perspectives and assist in policy formulation. Therefore, researchers in the humanities must co-operate with other disciplines in a multi-disciplinary approach. To this end, the establishment of both physical and virtual infrastructures on a pan-European level is also of great importance and will have a cumulative positive impact on this new European policy.

Having adopted the Lisbon strategy, Greek policy makers aspire to create internationally competitive centres of excellence in high technology sectors to provide and share resources, technology and innovation. Therefore, a policy of international cooperation with organizations from other countries is strongly encouraged.

# 4. Implementation of Digital Strategy in the Arts and Humanities

### 4.1. The Greek Public Research System

Higher Education Institutions and Public Research Centres comprise the public research sphere and receive state funding from the State Regular Budget and the Public Investment



Budget. The latter provides funds on a project, competitive basis, for those participating in the RTD activities within Community Support Framework programmes. It is estimated that roughly 10% of the RTD funding in Greece is provided by these Framework Programmes. Research projects also obtain funding from the European Framework Programmes.

### 4.1.1. Higher Education Institutions

The policy of the Ministry of Education relates to research activities of Universities and Technological Education Institutes by enabling the creation and funding of new departments and graduate programmes. Furthermore, the orientation of research activities in these institutions depends on the personal strategies of the professors and teaching staff. Their research projects are funded on a competitive basis by funds available through various project funding schemes of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology and other ministries, the EU operational frameworks and the demands of industry. In the early eighties, to overcome an outdated structural framework, the universities established more flexible bodies within the main University structure in order to facilitate the management of research funding. Once implemented, these structures generated new opportunities through opening up the higher education sector for cooperation with European research institutions and with industrial partners and other users of research services.

### 4.1.2. Public Research Centres

The General Secretariat for Research and Technology supervises 12 research centres of varying size and domain, including 58 Institutes. Some of the disciplines served are: Information Technologies (7 Institutes), Social Sciences (4 Institutes) and Humanities (5 Institutes). The research organizations established before 1975 belong to the public domain, while those established after 1980, the new Research Centres, are semi-public legal entities. Research Centres with a particular focus on Arts and Humanities are:

- Foundation for Research & Technology Hellas FORTH (Heraklion –Crete), with 6 Institutes, two of which cover the humanities: the Centre for Cultural Informatics and the Institute for Mediterranean Studies.
- National Hellenic Research Foundation (Athens), with three Institutes covering humanities: the Institute for Greek and Roman Antiquities, the Institute for Byzantine Research and the Institute for Neohellenic Research. The National Hellenic Research Foundation also houses the National Documentation Centre.
- ATHENA Research & Innovation Centre for Information, Communication and



Knowledge Technologies (Athens), with: the Institute for Language and Speech Processing, the Cultural and Educational Technology Institute and the Digital Curation Unit-Athena Research Centre.

Some of the older institutions have remained under the supervision of other ministries. Among this group is the Academy of Athens, founded in 1926, which is supervised directly by the Ministry of Education. Eleven of its institutes focus on research in social sciences and humanities. The recent transfer of the GSRT to the Ministry of Education is expected to facilitate policy integration.

### 4.2. Assessment of Public Research Centres

In 1995 the Greek Government decided to introduce a systematic evaluation of the Public Research Centres and to reward excellence, following evaluations according to international standards. The General Secretariat for Research & Technology evaluates the research institutes periodically (every 4 or 5 years) with the help of international peers. The last evaluation involved 45 evaluated Institutes, of which 15 acquired top marks by the international peers and consequently received the largest sums of the funding.

Among the top performers were:

- Computer Science Institute Foundation for Research & Centre: Technology (FORTH-Hellas)
- Institute of Mediterranean Studies (FORTH-Hellas)
- Greek and Roman Antiquity (National Research Foundation)
- Byzantine Studies (National Research Foundation)
- Cultural & Educational Technological Institute (Athena R.C.)
- Institute of Language & Speech Processing Athena (Athena R.C.)

The Institute of Neo-Hellenic Studies of the National Research Foundation, was also evaluated as "Good/Satisfactory" among 11 more institutes of various research domains. The research projects of these institutes are supported by national funds, sponsors and EU Structural Funds, which continue to constitute the basic funding instrument in Greece until 2015. Recently, a significant budget increase for research has been announced (5,8%), contributing to the strengthening of RTDI activities in Greece through the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), a figure which is significantly higher than the previous one (1,7%). The challenge is to invest a significant percentage of this budget in the arts and humanities sector.



### 4.3. Assessment of Cultural Heritage Projects

Over the last five years, an impressive amount of European Union funds have been successfully absorbed by larger or smaller digitization and documentation projects undertaken by a large number of cultural heritage institutions. Most of the institutions holding cultural heritage material, from small private collections to big public museums, took advantage of relevant calls to ensure the preservation and further exploitation of their valuable data. Even before fully grasping the impact of this opportunity, in 2004, institutions from both the public and the private sector responded with applications for 160 projects to a specific call of the Operational Programme "Information Society", which focused on the documentation, management and promotion of Greek cultural heritage. According to the official yearly report by the Monitoring Committee of the Operational Programme "Information Society", from the beginning of the programme until the end of 2004, 138 projects were selected for funding. The most important ones (suggested by the official IS site, www.infosoc.gr) were the following projects: "Documentation, utilisation and promotion of the collections belonging to and managed by the Museum of Cycladic Art", "Digital record of the Greek cinema", "Documentation, digitalization and promotion of the monuments of Sinai heritage", "Digital documentation and promotion of collections and records of the Benaki Museum" and "Promotion of the historical audiovisual record (video and photos) of ERT in the Information Society".

Most of the digital collections were made possible by means of the above mentioned and other cultural heritage digitization programmes and resulted in the creation of repositories, archives, and web portals. Fifty nine (59) of these institutions won an Excellence award for the quality of their work. Furthermore, thirty (30) institutions received a special award for "Best Practices for Projects of Digital Culture".

Following the experience gained during these digitization projects, cultural heritage institutions and other organizations have realized that digitization practices, alongside software applications and infrastructure are necessary for the creation and curation of digital collections. Besides, the digital collections that have now become accessible are of interest to a wide-ranging list of disciplines, such as archaeology, history, linguistics, folklore studies and arts. In this respect, of equally great importance are the methodological tools and processes applied to digital scholarship. Indeed, although awareness of the value of digitization for cultural heritage has been successfully promoted, digital scholarship, i.e. research and education, in the arts and humanities still needs boosting by means of expert networks, training programmes and policy coordination.



## 4.4. Research Centres with Specialized Focus on Digital Humanities Research

Long-term preservation, digital curation and interoperability issues at the national and international level have been the main research objectives of a number of innovative institutions and cutting-edge research Centres. Over the last years, a number of systematic efforts have been launched in response to these needs. Some of the key players in this field in Greece are listed below.

### 4.4.1. Digital Curation Unit (DCU)

The newly established (2007) Digital Curation Unit (DCU) is a department of the Institute for the Management of Information Systems of the "Athena" Research centre. It is a partner of Preparing DARIAH and among others has created the MOPSEUS Digital Library service. Its mission focuses in conducting research, developing technologies and applications, providing services and training, and asserting a leading role in the area of digital curation nationwide. One of the aim of the Digital Curation Unit is to serve the needs of digital scholarship and digital cultural heritage by providing services and applications on web archiving, annotation systems, digital preservation, database curation and ontologies.

### 4.4.2. Centre for Cultural Informatics - ICS FORTH

The Centre for Cultural Informatics is a specialized unit in the Information Systems Laboratory of the Institute of Computer Science, Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas. It aims to support the entire lifecycle of cultural information and documentation procedures fostering preservation, study and promotion of cultural heritage. The Centre is involved in knowledge representation, ontology engineering, database technology and web technology with expertise in archaeology, museum documentation and management, sites and monuments management, art conservation, archives and libraries, thesaurus and dictionary management. Furthermore, it constitutes a competency centre for the CIDOC-CRM, a dynamically developed documentation standard, providing consultancy.

# 4.4.3. Image, Video and Multimedia Systems Laboratory, School of Electrical & Computer Engineering, Computer Science Division of the National Technical University of Athens

The Image, Video and Multimedia Systems Lab (IVML) of the Institute of Communication and Computer Systems (ICCS), was selected by the Greek Secretariat of Research and Technology



(GSRT), as a Service Providing Lab in its field for the services in the areas of digital image, video and multimedia processing. The IVML is currently a partner in EuropeanaConnect, a best practice network running under the eContentplus programme,. Its overall objective is to deliver core components which allow interoperability to the European Digital Library and a sufficient integrated access to digital resources from museums, archives, audio-visual archives and libraries of Europe.

### 5. Survey Findings

### 5.1. Rationale and Key Questions

The questionnaire was built to serve a dual goal: a) to identify bodies and their work in cultural heritage and digital research in the arts and humanities and b) to discover the institutions eager to participate in future efforts towards a unified research policy and contribute in planning a new digital research environment for the arts and humanities.

The analysis presented below is driven by the main objectives of the study and aims to reveal how cultural organizations and institutions perceive and evaluate the status of digital arts and humanities in Greece. It is also an effort to evaluate progress in qualitative terms, to assess the Government's digital strategy and to place it in a context of a national and international research strategy.

As a matter of fact, the Lisbon agenda is a challenge to humanistic research to encourage the disciplines of the field to redirect their aims toward providing suitable answers to areas of knowledge in a manner that meets the social requirements of our times. The research results will have to add value and contribute to the needs of economic growth and progress on actual national or international matters.

Likewise, research in the humanities must fulfill the aim of meeting present-day demands. Its digital dimension, digital humanities, enforces this capacity. Evaluating the status of research methods and the policy of institutions will enable policy makers to define the steps to be taken for the formulation of a strategy that will introduce humanities into the dynamic framework of the sciences. The questionnaire addressed to the Greek institutes and broader research community, within the framework of the present study, is also an effort to assess this status. Besides, obstacles and deficiencies encountered in the implementation of policies have also been brought to the attention of the interviewees.



### 5.2. Analysis and Interpretation

The target population that finally responded to the questionnaire does not necessarily form a sample that objectively represents all Greek organizations involved in arts and humanities. With respect to disciplines, it has not been possible to achieve an objective representation of all arts and humanities domains or of all types of institutions. Neither has it been possible to obtain a balanced representation of all cities or locations with respect to geographical representativeness.

Findings from content analysis are organized below into three sections according to the main themes of this research.

### 5.2.1. Organization Data

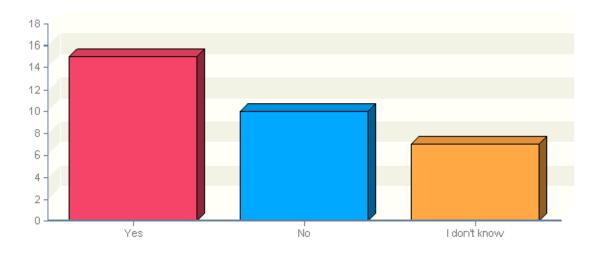
This section provides the contextual information about organizations and contains straightforward fields requesting identity information and contact data.

### 5.2.2. Current Status & Assessment

This section aims to explore the organizations' policy, its evaluation of government strategy and its views on obstacles in implementing a specific policy; also to provide a comparison with the progress made in other European countries as regards digital scholarship and to investigate the organizations' readiness to engage in and support digital scholarship.



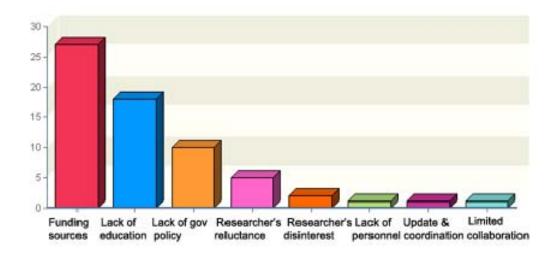
Is there in your view a coherent national strategy with regard to the development and encouragement of digital research in the humanities?



Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	15	48.39%
No	9	29.03%
I don't know	7	22.58%



Identify the main obstacles for the implementation of a national digital infrastructure that would serve the arts and humanities.



When asked to choose the main barriers from a list of predefined answers, most of the interviewees cited lack of funding sources, lack of education was also implicated as an important deterrent, while government responsibility and researchers' attitude came last in the priority list. It is obvious that organizations are increasingly aware of the significance of a national infrastructure and feel the need for additional information in order to contribute to building it.

Item	Count	Percent %
Funding sources	27	87.10%
Lack of education	18	58.06%
Lack of governmental policy	10	32.26%
Researchers' reluctance	5	16.13%
Researchers' disinterest	2	6.45%
Lack of personnel	1	3.23%
Update and coordination	1	3.23%
Lack of collaborative attitude	1	3.23%



How would you rate Greece as compared to other European countries with respect to digital research organization and implementation in the arts & humanities?

On this question, 40.6% of the participants estimate that Greece displays "moderate" progress and development, while other European countries, with a percentage of 65.4%, present a "Very Good" image.

Item	Perfect	Very good	Good	Moderate	Insufficient	Absent
Greece			21.9%	40.6%	37.5%	
			7	13	12	
Europe (UK, Netherlands	,3.8%	65.4%	26.9%			3.8%
Denmark, France, Ireland	1	17	7			1

What is the level of preparation of your organization for supporting researchers' digital methodology?

Next comes an equally difficult question of self-assessment, to which the answer of most of the participants is positive and optimistic: 46% characterize their readiness as satisfactory, 34% show hesitation, while 18% state that they are absolutely ready to support digital scholarship.

Item	Count	Percent %
Satisfactory	15	46.88%
Elementary	11	34.38%
Absolutely	6	18.75%



### 5.2.3. DARIAH Participation Perspective

This section is dedicated to collecting information on whether a particular organization has ever participated in digitization projects or is currently running any. Participants are asked to provide information, URLs and funding, and to state whether they provide digital services for researchers. The final question is an attempt to ascertain the willingness of the organizations to participate in the development and implementation of the emerging DARIAH infrastructure.

Have you participated or are you currently participating in a digitization project?

The vast majority have participated in one or more digitization programmes during recent years, a development that initiated the awareness process in the case of most organizations.

Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	31	96.88%
No	1	3.13%

Which is the main funding source for your research projects?

Not surprisingly, 45% of the projects have been supported by EU funds with the state budget coming second (22.6%). The Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning & Religious Affairs and private funding rank next with the same percentage (12.9%).

Item	State	Ministry of	Ministry of	European	Private	Other
	budget	Development	Education, Lifelong	Projects	funding	
			Learning & Religious			
			Affairs			
Funding	16.1%	6.5%	12.9%	45.2%	12.9%	6.5%
source						



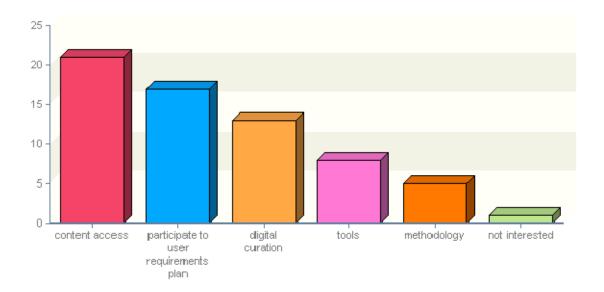
Does your organization have a service dedicated to the support of users' needs in digital research?

Since digital research can only be accomplished if digital services are provided by organizations, participants are equally split over the matter. This is a question that needs further elaboration, but the essence is that half of the organizations feel they cannot adequately manage their digital material and/or cannot easily provide access and a digital infrastructure to researchers.

Item	Count	Percent %
Yes	17	52.61%
No	15	47.39%

Would you like to participate in the DARIAH initiative in one or more of the following ways?

This last question is of great importance, since it will result in a list of prospective participants to a number of future initiatives. Most of them declared their eagerness to provide access to content and participate to user requirements related activities. A respectable percentage wishes to share tools, methodology and digital curation services.





Item	Count	Percent %
Content access	21	70.00%
Participation in user requirements plan	17	56.67%
Digital curation	13	43.33%
Tools	8	26.67%
Methodology	5	16.67%
Not interested	1	3.33%
		·

The questions of the two last sections (nos. 12-23) are listed below in Appendix D.

### 6. Conclusions & Recommendations

One of the main issues that concerned both the survey participants and the surveyors in the desk research was the government strategy on digital research. The survey's systematic and documented character permitted a rather objective and reliable evaluation. The question on how well prepared humanities research in Greece is to respond to the present demands of scholarship on a national and international level was answered in a reasonably reliable manner. Besides, the survey resulted in the compilation of a list of prospective key DARIAH stakeholders and of the particular organizations declaring their willingness to participate in the DARIAH initiatives and specifying the manner in which they wish to do so.

The questionnaire addressed to the Greek institutes and broader research community yielded revealing results. A measurable optimism is expressed regarding the comparison to the other European countries with respect to digital research. Either characterized as "good" or "moderate", the status of digital scholarship in Greece presumably can support a series of initiatives towards an organized system both in research and in teaching. Similarly, when it comes to readiness of the bodies to support and conduct digital scholarship, the prevailing percentage stated they are qualified to do so. Since most of the stakeholders have already taken part in a number of digitization projects over the last years, they feel quite confident with the experience they have gained. Besides, half of them declare that they actually provide services to cope with the needs of digital scholars, which may mean that they provide either access to their digitized content or other tools like thesauri, technical facilities and infrastructures. Consequently, the willingness to contribute to the DARIAH initiative comes as a natural



manifestation of their interest in digital humanities. The predefined selection of choices that the survey offered transformed the general intention into a set of specific actions these organizations are invited to contribute to. Providing content access is by far the most popular option, while collaborating to build user requirements needs is the second most favoured option, a fact that is of great value and usefulness for the present needs of Preparing DARIAH. Sharing tools, methodology and providing digital curation services are also popular options among interviewees.

However promising the results of the questionnaire regarding the attitude of the organizations and their willingness to proceed with policies that favor collaboration and boost awareness, there are still big obstacles to overcome and coordination of efforts is of most critical importance. The lack of major data repositories and a national depository is a significant gap that is attributed to the lack of a national strategy to establish a digital infrastructure. There is also no national policy to guide and develop digital scholarship in the arts and humanities. As Greek digital humanities overcomes its lack of a digital infrastructure, it will be called upon to deal with issues such as interoperability, copyright and cooperation between institutions.

In brief, the survey pinpoints lack of funding and limited coordination as the basic obstacles to progress in this. On the other hand, thanks to the first large-scale digitization initiative funded by the "Information Society" Operational Programme, a very important mentality barrier is being gradually overcome: Research institutions, universities, museums and the research community no longer underestimate the value of communicating knowledge. Communities of researchers with common research interests are expanding with the use of websites and blogs and new networks are coming into existence. It is true that limited communication among organizations has often resulted in overlaps and duplication of research projects. This is gradually changing. What is equally important, the outdated structure of state agencies and cultural organizations and the slow adaptation of the educational and training system to the requirements of a new knowledge environment, which had encumbered progress both in teaching and research, are being modernized. Humanities are overcoming their traditional conservative approach to research, fostering collaboration, knowledge sharing and experimentation with new research methods and questions. To site a characteristic comment by one of the interviewees: "We are looking for cooperation for the digital custody of our collections, so that we can offer it effectively to the research community. We hope this survey will bring us in touch with other institutions and that we may cooperate on this subject."

DARIAH on the other hand is eager to communicate a vision to prospective partners and stakeholders and to invite them to join the effort of building the European digital infrastructure.



It is, of course, absolutely understandable that many researchers in the humanities remain hesitant as to the benefits of computational techniques and therefore, reluctant to invest a significant amount of their time and energy to pursue what they consider an uncertain outcome. These concerns, also addressed in the questionnaire, should be taken into account, so that future efforts should focus on education and update of the researchers. Consequently, the creation of such a new national research environment, be it an infrastructure or a network, must focus on building relationships and collaborations in specific disciplines and disseminate the products of these collaborations. Equally, the arrangement of workshops on the application of specific technologies to research interests and scholarship could dispel the distrust and encourage the use of computational methodologies for these disciplines.

In order for the digital humanities experiment to succeed, efforts in two directions are equally necessary: Firstly, to build capacity among the Greek humanistic research community by advocating the advantages of digital research over traditional methods. And secondly, to work upon policymakers in order to convince them to put DARIAH on the national roadmap and secure funding for the construction and implementation phases of the project. This target coincides with a call launched in the beginning of 2009 by the GSRT, whose aim is the establishment of research infrastructure networks related to ESFRI projects in which Greek research institutions are participating. These RI networks are being invited to produce feasibility studies on the value of each of the European RIs for Greece. These feasibility studies will enable the GSRT to evaluate the merits of each RI for the Greek research community and to decide which of these RIs will be on the national roadmap and receive funding into the next phase.

The two Greek DARIAH partners, the Academy of Athens and the DCU, R.C. Athena have invited six other institutions to form a digital humanities network under the name "Research Infrastructure Network for the Humanities" (DYAS). The eight partner institutions are:

- The Academy of Athens
- The Digital Curation Unit, R.C. Athena
- The University of Athens
- The National Research Foundation
- The Foundation for Research and Technology- Hellas
- The Ministry of Culture- Directorate of the National Archive of Monuments
- The Athens School of Fine Arts



• The National Technical University of Athens- School of Electrical & Computer Engineering, Computer Science Division- Image, Video and Multimedia Systems Laboratory.

### DYAS will:

- provide a platform for exchanging ideas, knowledge innovation and experimentation
- help overcome isolation of researchers and the duplication of research activities
- offer a collaborative environment in which research institutions will be able to enhance the quality of humanistic research.

The network will elaborate a proposal for linking the network with the European infrastructure DARIAH and will engage in a number of dissemination and training activities.

The DYAS consortium aims to build a collaborative national platform for the coordination and dissemination of humanities research at the national level. One of its main targets is to bridge the efforts of institutions and to save efforts and funds by avoiding the duplication of research. At the same time it will set agreed standards to which to adhere. However, initiatives by institutions need government backing. A comprehensive national digitization strategy formulated by the Government at a national level is essential. The work is being done on the ground; it now requires the input of government to bring it together into a national policy and a Trusted Digital Repository.



### 7. Appendices

### Appendix A: Key Greek DARIAH Stakeholders

The Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs is the competent authority for the funding of universities and for the creation of new departments and nominations of personnel. A Special Secretary is responsible for the management of the Operational Programme for Education and Initial Vocational Training, that constitutes the main funding instrument for post-graduate studies and basic research in universities as well as technological research in Technological Education Institutes. Today, 21 Universities and 15 Technological Education Institutes are in operation and they are the main operators in the RTD area (close to 45% of the national effort). Universities are also among the main actors for defining research orientations and priorities.

The **General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT)**, a department of the Ministry of **Education**, **Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs**, is the authority responsible for the formulation and implementation of RTD policy in Greece. The Secretariat's mission is to promote cooperation with other countries and international organizations on research and technology issues, establish new institutes and technological centres to support the development of the Greek economy. It is the funding agency for 21 of the country's research and technological centres. The dissemination of research and technology information throughout the country and internationally is implemented by advanced IT systems and networks.

The Ministry of Economy Competitiveness and Shipping (formerly Economy and Finance) plays a decisive role in policy making and funding, as they have the first role in innovation policy with the preparation of incentives for innovative RTD investments. It is the central managing authority of the Community Support Framework, the regional development and the social funds, and it coordinates the Operational Programmes of the other Ministries and Regional authorities in order to set the main priorities and avoid duplications.

The **Special Secretariat for Competitiveness (SSC)**, has been established in 2000 and supervises the Managing Authority of the "Operational Programme for Competitiveness". The Managing Authority, is involved in the decision making for programmes' planning and project funding and it can also take ad hoc decisions to support actions related to research and innovation. Moreover the SSC supports the National Competitiveness Council, created in 2003,



to promote competitiveness and development. The aim of the National Council for Competitiveness and Development is to plan and monitor the implementation of the National Competitiveness and Development Strategy.

The **Ministry of Culture and Tourism** aims at the protection, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage, as well as the development of the arts in Greece. The administrative structure consists of three main general departments: Antiquities and Cultural Heritage, Museums and Restoration Construction Projects, and Contemporary Culture. Regarding the domain of the arts and humanities, research is applied through the departments of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage by special chronologically and thematically divided Directorates dependent Ephorates of antiquities, institutions and museums throughout Greece. The Department of Contemporary Culture includes the Directorates of Literature, Theater and Dance, Music, Visual Arts, Cinema and Audiovisual Media, Cultural Actions and also emphasizes promotion, maintenance and economic support.

The National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF) is a multidisciplinary Research Centre established by Royal Decree on 9th October 1958. Its purpose is the organization, finance and support of high-level research projects in the humanities and the natural sciences. The Humanities Institutes cover a wide spectrum of study and research fields in Greek history and culture with the following institutes: Institute for Greek and Roman Antiquity, Institute for Byzantine Research, Institute for Neohellenic Research. The Natural Sciences Institutes perform basic and applied research in cutting edge areas of science, such as health, pharmaceuticals, environment, biotechnology and new materials.

The National Documentation Centre (NDC) is the national institution for documentation, information and support on science research and technology issues. It is integrated with the National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF) and is supervised by the General Secretariat for Research and Technology. NDC's services aim at supporting the country's entire scientific and business community, universities, research centres, enterprises and public and private sector institutions. In the area of digital humanities, NDC operates the Science and Technology Digital Library, supports the automation and networking of libraries and develops state-of-the-art library tools. NDC's vision is to provide access to scientific knowledge for everyone, in order to promote research, innovation and competitiveness. Furthermore, it monitors international trends, develops collaborations and networks and participates in national and European projects. It is also involved in a wide range of actions: consultancy services, training seminars, organization of information days, workshops and conferences, online services. The financial resources of the Centre include funds from the Annual State Budget and the Public Investment



Programme, as well as from competitive national, European programmes, networks and services to third parties.

The **Academy of Athens** has the legal status of a Legal Entity of Public Law and is supervised by the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs. The Academy is composed of three Sections: the Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts, and Ethical and Political Sciences. The main mission of the Academy of Athens is to cultivate and foster Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts, to conduct scientific research, and to provide consultation to the state in these areas. In the pursuit of these objectives, the Academy of Athens supports scientific research, participates in international scientific organizations, carries out publications, grants scholarships, and confers awards and honorary distinctions. Currently there are 13 Research Centres and 10 Research Offices in operation, all with specialized libraries, as well as a central Library named the "Ioannis Sykoutris Library". Research Centres focused on Humanities are: Research Centre for Modern Greek Dialects, Hellenic Folklore Research Centre, Research Centre for Greek Philosophy, Research Centre for Antiquity, Research Centre for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Art, Research Centre for Scientific Terms and Neologisms, Bureau of Modern Greek Art.

# ATHENA Research & Innovation Centre for Information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies is a research and technology body, which was founded under the auspices of the Ministry of Development in 2001. Its mission is the development of scientific and technological research, implementation and exploitation of results in the sectors of information technology, knowledge, communication and automating production processes. Among its goals is the specialization and training of scientists and technicians in the aforementioned fields by organizing and funding research projects, postgraduate seminars, publications, seminars and conferences. It also provides special technical services, undertakes technical and economical studies and feasibility studies so that commercial exploitation of the results is ensured. Athena RC cooperates under various frameworks with universities and technical universities, research institutes and companies or participates in Scientific Committees, consortia etc. It is also eligible to found or to co-found companies which share the same goals as "Athena". The following two institutes and one unit of Athena RC concern humanities: the Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP), the Cultural and Educational Technology Institute – CETI and the Digital Curation Unit.

The **Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP)/** R.C. "Athena" was established under the auspices of the General Secretariat of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Development. The aim of ILSP / R.C. "Athena" is to be a centre of excellence in the areas of:



Natural Language Processing, Speech processing, recognition and synthesis, music and sound processing, e-learning, distance learning for language, culture and music. ILSP / R.C. "Athena" develops technologies on the following axes: digital monolingual, multilingual and multimedia corpora and dictionaries, computational lexical databases, text processing and analysis for information retrieval and knowledge extraction, multimodal and multilingual information processing and retrieval, machine translation and translation aid tools, stand-alone and integrated voice recognition and text-to-speech systems, assistive technologies for disabled persons, digital curation and presentation of cultural content, multimedia e-learning platforms for language and music.

The **Cultural and Education Technology Institute (C.E.T.I.)** aims at the strengthening of research and technological activities and the application of new technologies to humanistic research, culture and education. The Institute concentrates its scientific activities on the application of information technology to the study of texts, analyses, study and registry of languages, works of art, monuments etc., the study of related material, particularly ceramics, paper and parchments, and the application of information technology to the areas education including distance learning and education-on-demand. It also conducts research programmes into the area of the application of new technologies to culture and education, and provides information technology support for scientific and developmental activities of the region by creating databases, electronic storage facilities, network connections etc. It trains scientists by conducting post graduate seminars and workshops and through various publications and presentations. The institute collaborates both within Greece and abroad with experts and organizations specializing on topics relevant to its activities, with the purpose of the advancement of its objectives, and if needed, subcontract them for research topics of special interest.

**Digital Curation Unit (DCU)** The newly established (2007) Digital Curation Unit (DCU) is a department of the Institute for the Management of Information Systems of the "Athena" Research centre. It is a partner of Preparing DARIAH and has created the MOPSEUS Digital Library service. Its mission focuses in conducting research, developing technologies and applications, providing services and training, and asserting a leading role in the area of digital curation nationwide. One of the aim of the Digital Curation Unit is to serve the needs of digital scholarship and digital cultural heritage by providing services and applications on web archiving, annotation systems, digital preservation, database curation and ontologies.

The **Foundation for Research & Technology Hellas-FORTH** The Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH), established in 1983, is one of the largest research centres in



Greece. It functions under the supervision of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs and consists of seven Research Institutes. The research and technological directions of the Foundation cover major areas of scientific, social, and economic interest, such as: Computer Sciences, Molecular Biology, Lasers, Telecommunications, Medical Engineering, Microelectronics, Robotics, Biotechnology, Materials, Chemical and Biological Engineering, Applied and Computational Mathematics, Biomedical Technologies, Bioinformatics as well as Historical and Cultural Studies. Over the years, FORTH has become one of the top European research centres, thanks to its high impact research results and its valuable socioeconomic contribution. The Institute of Computer Science with the a specialized unit of Centre for Cultural Informatics and the Institute of Mediterranean Studies focus on arts and humanities disciplines.

The **Centre for Cultural Informatics** is part of the research units of the Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas (FORTH). It aims to the support of the entire lifecycle of cultural information and documentation procedures fostering preservation, study and promotion of cultural heritage. The Centre is involved in knowledge representation, ontology engineering, database technology and web technology with expertise in archaeology, museum documentation and management, sites and monuments management, art conservation, archives and libraries, thesaurus and dictionary management. Furthermore it constitutes a competence centre for the CIDOC-CRM documentation standard, continuing its development and providing consultancy to implementers and researchers.

The **Institute for Mediterranean Studies (IMS)** also belongs to the research units of the Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas (FORTH). The purpose of IMS is to support and invigorate research in the field of the human and social sciences, as well as to promote the application of advanced technologies in the field. The IMS possesses a fully equipped Laboratory of Geophysical-Satellite Remote Sensing (GIS) & Archaeo-environment, specialized in archaeological research. The Library of the Institute is focused on Turkish Studies and Art History. The Library collects archival material, as well as collections of Greek and foreign newspapers in digital form and microfilms. The objective of the IMS's research programmes is to study the geographical space, the history and culture of Greece and the other Mediterranean countries in various historical periods, from prehistory to modern times. The research projects of the Institute are organized along the following axes: Turkish Studies, History Studies, Art History, Theatre Studies and Musicology, The Laboratory of Geophysical-Satellite Remote Sensing & Archaeo-environment.

The Hellenic Institute of Marine Archaeology (HIMA) is a private non-profit organization,



founded in 1973, and acts as the official consultant to the Greek State from 1976 (when the Department of Underwater Antiquities in the Greek Ministry of Culture was founded). It aims to organize and promote maritime archaeological research and Greece's maritime heritage. HIMA undertakes scientific research, independently, under the supervision or in cooperation with the Greek Ministry of Culture. Its multifaceted activities include surveys and excavations, conservation, training, publication and cooperative research projects with other institutions throughout Europe. It has over 100 members, with diverse academic credentials, all of whom work on a voluntary basis. HIMA receives support from private sponsors.

The Archaeological Society at Athens was founded on 1837 by a group of scholars and politicians long before the establishment of a state service to protect antiquities from looting and destruction. The Society's mission is to locate, excavate, re-erect and restore ancient Greek treasures. It receives support from members' subscriptions and voluntary donations. The Society also founded several large museums in Athens, which were later merged to form the National Archaeological Museum. Its major projects include the excavation of the Acropolis, the restoration of the Parthenon and excavations of the Theatre of Dionysos, the Odeion of Herod Atticus and the Tower of the Winds and, more recently, excavations in Macedonia and Thrace. As an independent learned society, the Archaeological Society is in a position to assist the State in its work of protecting, improving and studying Greek antiquities. An important part of the Society's work is its publications. Besides the periodicals, there is the series of books with the general title The Library of the Archaeological Society at Athens: these are monographs on archaeological subjects and reports on excavations, mostly those carried out by the Society.

**Aegeus - Society of Aegean Prehistory** was established on 1 March 2009. Its mission is to study, research and disseminate of prehistoric archaeology of the Aegean, the neighboring regions, as well as regions that are historically related to the Aegean Sea. Increasing public awareness of the prehistoric cultural heritage in the Aegean region, through the promotion and advancement of Aegean archaeology in close collaboration with the State and other authorities is among its principle tasks. It also intends to engage in multidisciplinary collaborations in Aegean archaeology, such as bioarchaeology, archaeobotany, zooarchaeology, geoarchaeology and to promote collaborations with other social sciences and humanities (such as philology, social anthropology, history, philosophy, etc.) by developing a technical and financial infrastructure.

**Eurypylus for Greek and Roman Antiquity** (<a href="http://portal.lib.uoa.gr">http://portal.lib.uoa.gr</a>) is a service provided by the Library of the National University of Athens. The purpose of Eurypylus is to provide via the web information on activities related to educational and research activities of universities on



Ancient Greek and Latin language and literature, archeology, history, philosophy, theater, music, religion and related subjects. Eurypylus offers information on conferences, seminars, excavations, exhibitions held in Greece by academic institutions and scientific bodies.

**e-scriptorum** (<a href="http://e-scriptorum.blogspot.com">http://e-scriptorum.blogspot.com</a>) is a blog set up by a group of librarians, aiming at developing and providing digital tools and information for the management and digitization of archives and libraries. It also provides news and useful links on digital archives, databases, tools, standards and conferences.

To the above list we must add the following Universities with humanities departments, that might be considered as prospective stakeholders, as some of them are interested in conducting digital research and in adding digital humanities in their curricula.

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

School of Philology

School of History and Archaeology

School of Philosophy and Pedagogy

School of Visual and Applied Arts

School of Music Studies

**School of Film Studies** 

Democritus University of Thrace

Department of History and Ethnology

Department of Greek Literature

Department of Languages, Literature and Culture of Black Sea Countries

Hellenic Open University

School of Humanities

International Hellenic University

**School of Humanities** 

<u>Ionian University</u>

**Department of History** 

Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting

Department of Music Studies

Department of Archival and Library Sciences

**Department of Audio and Visual Arts** 

**Department of Asian Studies** 

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

School of Philosophy



Faculty of Philology

Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology

Faculty of History and Archaeology

Faculty of Music Studies

Faculty of Theatre Studies

Faculty of Turkish and Modern Asian Studies

Faculty of Slavic Studies

Faculty of the Philosophy & History of Science

**Museum Studies** 

Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences

### Department of Communication, Media and Culture

University of the Aegean

School of Social Sciences

**Department of Social Anthropology and History** 

<u>Department of Cultural Technology and Communication</u>

**School of Humanities** 

**Department of Mediterranean Studies** 

Linguistics of the South-East Mediterranean Area

<u>Archaeology</u>

University of Crete

Faculty of Philosophy

**Department of Philology** 

**Department of History and Archaeology** 

**Department of Philosophy and Social Studies** 

University of Ioannina

School of Philosophy

**Philology** 

<u>History and Archaeology</u>

Philosophy, Education and Psychology

**Department of Plastic Arts and Art Sciences** 

Department of Cultural Heritage Management and New Technologies

<u>University of Peloponnese</u>

Faculty of Humanities and Culture Studies

Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources

**Management** 

**Department of Philology** 



#### Faculty of Fine Art

### **Department of Theatre Studies**

University of Thessaly

Humanities

Department of History Archaeology and Social Anthropology

University of Western Greece

Applied and Visual Arts
Balkan Studies

## **Appendix B: Surveyed Organizations**

The **Directorate of the National Archive of Monuments** of the **Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism** is the authority responsible for the collection, indexing and study of archival material that relates to the historical monuments and archaeological sites in Greece. It oversees the administrative development and history of the Archaeological Service, coordinates the digitization procedures applied by the Regional Authorities of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The Directorate is also responsible for maintaining the National Archive of Monuments, an electronic registry on immovable and movable monuments and for compiling the Ongoing Catalogue of Listed Archaeological Sites and Monuments of Greece, which lists the decrees for the conservation of monuments, archaeological sites and places of historical interest in the country.

The Directorate of museums, exhibitions & educational programmes of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism is responsible for the coordination and supervision of the following Departments: Department of Public Archaeological Museums and Collections, Department of Non-Public Archaeological Museums and Collections, Antique Shops and prosecution of illegal trade in antiquities, Department of Exhibitions and Museological Research, Department of Educational Programmes and Communications, Department of Economic and Secretarial Support. Its responsibilities also include harmonizing the work and activities of the Regional and Special Regional Services and preparing and presenting issues before the Central Archaeological Council, the Central Modern Monuments Council and the Council of Museums.

The **National Archaeological Museum** is the largest museum in Greece. Its original purpose was to secure all the finds from the nineteenth-century excavations in and around Athens and it has been gradually enriched with finds from all over Greece. The Museum holds collections with more than 20,000 exhibits of Greek civilization from the beginnings of Prehistory to Late



Antiquity, possesses a rich photographic archive and a library with many rare publications. There are also modern conservation laboratories for metal, pottery, stone and organic materials, a cast workshop, a photographic laboratory and a chemistry laboratory. The Museum functions as a research centre for scientists and scholars from around the world and participates in special educational and other programmes. The Museum functions as a Special Regional Service of the Ministry of Culture and its five permanent collections are administered autonomously.

The **Byzantine and Christian Museum**, is one of the national museums of the country and one of the major museums internationally on art and culture of the Byzantine and post-Byzantine periods. It has more than 25,000 items, organized into collections, which date from the 3rd to the 20th century, mainly from Greece, Asia Minor and the Balkans. The VCHM has launched a new interpretative approach to Byzantine culture, endowing the museum with a different role in today's society, by hosting contemporary collections, numerous innovative temporary exhibitions and educational programmes.

The National Museum of Contemporary Art (EMST) was founded in 1997 as a Legal Body of Private Law, of non-profit character, supervised and funded by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. Among its basic aims are: the creation of collections of works of contemporary Hellenic and international art, the promotion and presentation of advanced and experimental artistic tendencies, the enhancement of the aesthetic and artistic cultivation of the audience and the development of scientific research on subjects of contemporary art history and theory. Its foundation fulfilled a long-felt need for the existence of an institution for contemporary international art in Athens. Within the framework of the educational policy of EMST educational programmes for school groups and families, children workshops, tour for adults and educators' seminars are realized, aiming at contributing to the discovery of and familiarization with contemporary art, Greek and international. Within its policy for the development for scientific research, the documentation of its collections and contemporary art in general, EMST creates the Artists' Archive. The aim of the Museum is to develop into a centre of digital documentation for contemporary art, within the context of the European programme 'Information Society'.

The **Athens School of Fine Arts** has evolved from a small nucleus established in 1837 known either as the Polytechnic or the School for the Arts, and in 1930 the school was established as an independent institution. The goals of the Athens School of Fine Arts are to provide theoretical and practical education in the fine arts and promote contemporary art, to encourage the artistic sensibility of the public by organizing exhibitions of Greek and foreign



artists and to train art education teachers for secondary schools. The Department of Theory and History of Art intends to upgrade the quality of Humanities in Greece through research and teaching of art history. The School's Library is instrumental in assisting the School to develop research in the history of art, with emphasis on modern Greek art. Its digital collection includes books, magazines and online databases.

The Athens University Museum of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens is located in the historical building of "Cleanthis Residence", also known as "The Old University" where the first University of the Greek Independent State operated during the period between 1837 and 1841. The Museum's collections include hand-written books, old and rare editions, portraits of University's professors, manuscripts, letters, diplomas, old scientific instruments of Medicine, Physics, Chemistry and Pharmacology, medallions and various souvenirs of the University. Museum's Collections of Books includes the first Greek scientific editions of Law, Physics, Medicine, Chemistry, Astronomy, History, Philosophy, Archaeology and Linguistics, as well as works of the first Professors of the University of Athens. Additionally, the collections consist of old and rare editions, writings of the neo-Hellenic Enlightenment era, rare anatomic maps and scientific yearbooks.

The **University of Piraeus Library's** purpose is to support the educational - academic and research procedures, at both undergraduate and postgraduate course levels. The intermediate aims of the Library are: to connect and develop collaborations with other libraries and other national and international organizations to improve source exploitation; to train the library's staff in the new advances in librarianship, as well as informatics and computer science and also technologies that support the previous; to promote scholarship on the national and international standards, as well as compatible systems of organizing and administration in order to facilitate collaborations with other national and foreign libraries.

The **Library and Information Centre** functions as an independent and decentralized service of the **University of Patras**. LIC is an open access library and offers documented information and material to all users. Acquisition of materials is based on the teaching subjects and needs of the University. LIC maintains collections of general informative material (encyclopedias, dictionaries and handbooks), monographs and journals. It also offers access to a number of databases (text and multimedia) either online or in CD ROM and collections of electronic journals and electronic books. It also maintains smaller collections of material in various formats such as disks, cassettes, music CDs, video films, microfiches and other types. LIC emphasizes in the adoption of methods and practices in quality control, and in research and their incorporation in the daily operation.



The **Centre for Greek and Roman Antiquity (KERA)** is the youngest of the National Hellenic Research Foundation's (NHRF) three historical institutes. It was founded in 1979 in order to foster systematic research on antiquity. The Centre's research projects today cover all aspects of Greek antiquity, from prehistory to the end of antiquity in the seventh century A.D. Special emphasis is placed on the regeneration and renewal of the infrastructure of classical studies through the systematic collection and editing in computerized databases of source materials, including literary texts, inscriptions and coins, photographs, plans, maps, aerial photographs and topographical diagrams. Equally important is the publication of these materials in collections ('corpora'), the production of monographs, articles and other studies based on the data collected. The training of young scholars and the development of collaborative research programmes with Greek and foreign scholars, foundations and organizations is highly promoted through scholarly exchanges and the organization of conferences. The European Union has also funded the progressive establishment of a computer network and the production of programmes, which have facilitated the transfer of archives into electronic format, and the application of technology to the Institute's research and publishing activities. The KERA also possesses a small specialist library, which concentrates on areas covered by current research programmes.

The **Research Centre for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Art** is one of the Research Institutes of the **Academy of Athens**. It is the brainchild of the byzantinist Manolis Chatzidakis, who held the Chair of Byzantine Archaeology and Art at the Academy of Athens from 1990 until 1998. The Centre was founded in 1994. Its mission is to carry out research on the history of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Art, focusing on the architectural and painted monuments, as well as all other works of art of the era.

The Research Centre for the Study of Modern Greek History was founded in 1945 with the mission to collect, study and publish sources related to the history of Greece and the Greek Diaspora world since the 19th century. It also conducts research projects and publications. The Centre has acquired a collection of original documents and of microfilms and a specialised library. The Centre has acquired a collection of approximately 12.000 microfilms and its Library comprises 12.100 titles. The main bulk of the material consists of the correspondence of the British, French, Austro- Hungarian and American Foreign Ministries with their Embassies and Consulates in Greece and in the Ottoman Empire. Many research projects involve processing of evidence. Such projects are the historical bibliography and the presentation of large archival units in the form of either of a published catalogue or of an electronic database.



The Research Centre for Modern Greek Dialects (ILNE) came under the jurisdiction of the Academy of Athens in 1927 by Presidential Decree. The Historical Dictionary of Modern Greek, both in its standard form and in its dialectal varieties has a monumental objective: the comprehensive collection of all lexical/functional items of Modern Greek (mainly spoken language) and of their regional variants from 1800 onwards. It is called historical because it examines the phonetic, morphological, semantic and syntactic changes of Modern Greek words diachronically. The Centre is supervised by a Committee, composed of members of the Academy of Athens. In addition, the Archive of Toponyms and Personal Names has been attached to the Centre.

The **Greek Language Centre** has been operating since 1994 as a private entity based in Thessaloniki. The research institute is supervised and financed by the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religion that shares the administration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture. It aims at the scientific description and documentation of trends in Modern Greek language at home and abroad. The mission is described as the research of the Greek language and literature, the investigation of language education and policy, the certification of attainment in Greek, research and teaching materials and promotion and dissemination of Greek language.

The Institute for Balkan Studies (IMXA) was founded in March 1953, and operated as an offshoot of the Society for Macedonian Studies for the next twenty years. Since 1974, it has been an independent legal entity governed by private law, under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture. Its activities include: conducting research into the history, archaeology, culture, international relations, economics, and other aspects of the Balkan Peninsula, publishing scholarly studies and periodicals, organising conferences and other academic meetings, teaching the Balkan languages, Russian and Polish and running Greek summer courses for speakers of other languages. IMXA's main concerns are to promote a better understanding of the developments which have shaped the current situation in southeastern Europe and to work with the international and Balkan scholarly community.

The **Society for Macedonian Studies** is a legal entity of private law. Its objectives are to collect, record, classify, preserve, study, and publish linguistic, folklore, historical, archaeological, and general archival material and folk art which relate to Macedonia in particular and Greece in general. The Society has endeavored to promote and foster scientific research in all fields of study. In the furtherance of its aims, the Society has established three research departments (for history, linguistics, and archaeology), a library of some 45.000 volumes and a **Gallery of Modern Greek Art**.



The **European Centre for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments** was established as a legal entity of Private Law, supervised by the Ministry of Culture, based in Thessaloniki. Among its responsibilities in accordance with its aims are: to promote European and international level scholarly research in the fields of museology, excavation, restoration, preservation, promotion and the study of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine sites and projects. In this respect it conducts seminars and courses, provides grants to carry out research, it is involved in national or international programmes of scientific research and technological development and it participates in scientific activities.

The Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice is Greece's only research centre outside Greece itself. The Institute was founded in 1951, following a cultural agreement between Italy and Greece signed in 1948. The Institute began to function in 1958. The Institute's main objectives are to carry out studies in Byzantine and Post-Byzantine history — focusing primarily on the history of Greek territories under Latin domination, on the basis of Italian and in particular Venetian archives — and to publish the relevant historical sources. Research in archives and libraries is carried out by Greek graduates, who receive a scholarship in order to prepare doctoral theses and other studies on topics in the history, art and literature of the Greek regions under Venetian rule, and also on aspects of the history and activities of the Greek Confraternity in Venice.

The Institute for Research on Music and Acoustics (IEMA) -Greek Music Documentation Centre is a non-profit, non-government organization aiming to develop and support research in the field of music and acoustics, support contemporary music creation and provide systematic information, documentation and education in these domains. Founded in 1989, the Institute is the result of a common initiative from musicians and musicologists who created this organization according to those found abroad. During the last years, IEMA has established a permanent cooperative relationship with the Greek ministries of Culture, Education and Research. It is a member of the National Music Network, and is currently the most active organization involved in music research, information and documentation within Greece. The Institute's main pursuit is the scientific research and implementation via the use of new methods and technology, documentation and information provision through a series of actions (publications, sound recordings, concerts), and educational activities.

The **National Research Foundation "Eleftherios K. Venizelos"** was established as a centre for research and study of the work and the era of Eleftherios Venizelos, in Chania, the hometown of the greatest Greek statesman of the 20th century. The mission of the Foundation is to define a national strategy for the systematic research and study of the era, work and life of Eleftherios



Venizelos. In order to achieve its goals, the Foundation aims at: creating an archive by collecting original material for the reproduction of archives of public and private, Greek and foreign collections, establishing a specialized library and a collection of documents. It also conducts research programmes and coordinated research projects, carrying out research infrastructure programmes and collaborating with universities and other Greek or foreign research institutes.

The **Konstantinos K. Mitsotakis Foundation** was established in April 2001 as a non-profit cultural organization and is supervised by the Ministries of Finance and Culture. It is designed primarily to promote research of the political, social and economic history of Greece, especially for the period since the 1940s. More specifically it aims at promoting the systematic study and research of the life and work of former Greek politicians and intellectuals. To achieve these goals the Foundation maintains the archive of Constantine Mitsotakis, which contains various types of documents, audiovisual material (photographs, video and sound recordings). Almost the entire collection has been digitized and indexed and is available online to researchers and scholars of modern political history. The foundation also holds a library, which includes publications in the fields of Political Science, History, International Relations and Economics.

The **Folklife & Ethnological Museum of Macedonia-Thrace** explores the traditional culture of recent times in the region of Northern Greece. It gathers, preserves and records the material evidence of that past, making it available to the public for purposes of research, education and entertainment. The Museum's collections comprise some 20,000 items of all kinds - associated with agriculture, livestock breeding, fishing, as well as crafts such as weaving, sewing, embroidery, metalwork, carpentry and ceramics. Through knowledge of the society of yesterday the Museum hopes to promote a better understanding today's world. Its role is first and foremost a social one. Through its varied activities (exhibitions, educational programmes, publications and other activities) it communicates with the public and participates in the culture and life of the community.

The **Folklore Museum Nafplion**, belongs to the **Peloponnesian Folklore Foundation**, established in 1974 under the name «Vassilios Papantoniou», to study, search, rescue, and promote the wealth of Greek folk culture. Over 25,000 exhibits are hosted, with rare collections of costumes, embroidery, weaving, traditional pottery and a rich library.

The **Averoff Museum** of Neohellenic Art has operated in Metsovo, district of Ioannina, since August 1988. Its permanent exhibition comprises representative works by the major Greek painters, printmakers and sculptors of the 19th and 20th century, such as Gyzis, Lytras, Volanakis, Iakovides, Parthenis, Maleas, Galanis, Hadjikyriakos-Ghikas, Moralis, Tetsis, and



many others. The museum's Collection is regarded as one of the most complete and important of this period. In addition to the Permanent Exhibition, the museum mounts temporary thematic, retrospective, group, and other special-interest exhibitions with art works selected from other museums and private collections in Greece and abroad. Its other events include scientific symposiums, meetings, tours, educational programmes, and creative workshops.

The **Greek Film Centre** is a corporation that belongs to the broader public sector, is supervised by the Ministry of Culture and is subsidized by the state. The organization's goals are: «the protection, support and development of the art of film in Greece» and «the promotion, dissemination and promotion of Greek film productions both domestically and internationally.» To achieve its goals the Greek Film Centre develops the following activities: It finances film productions and ensures advantageous conditions in which Greek filmmakers can complete their work, it promotes and supports film distribution both domestically and internationally in commercial and parallel circuits, it organizes retrospectives and film weeks abroad, it participates in festivals, organizes seminars aimed at providing professional training, announces and awards scholarships for studies in Greece and abroad and it conducts studies and research as well as issues publications on the history and problems of Greek cinema.

The **Thessaloniki Museum of Photography** was established in 1997 and is the only photography museum in Greece. Its goals include organizing exhibitions and publications, supporting historical research and criticism on the subject of Greek photography, creating an updated library with titles and documents of Greek and international photographic literature, as well as enriching its collection with donations and purchases of historical and contemporary photographic works by Greek and foreign photographers. Its goals also include the hosting of lectures and the creation of educational programmes aimed at endowing the Greek audience with photographic learning. Particular emphasis is laid on the curation of original exhibitions and publications that study and promote aspects of contemporary Greek photographic artwork.

The **Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation (PIOP)** carries out cultural activities, which are part of the Piraeus Bank Group's corporate social responsibility. It is a non-profit institution and is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees. In accordance with the Foundation's statutes, the Piraeus Bank covers its operating costs, and also provides funds for an important part of its work. At the same time, the PIOP co-operates with local authorities and Greece's regional administrations towards creating thematic museums and relies on European funding for certain projects. The Foundation's headquarters are situated in the historical centre of Athens, in Plaka, where additionally are housed the Historical Archives Department,



Publications, Research and Promotion Departments, as well as the Foundation's Library.

The **Foundation of the Hellenic World (FHW)**, was founded and funded by the family of Lazaros Efraimoglou; it is therefore a privately funded non-profit cultural institution based in Athens. Its foundation was ratified in 1993 by unanimous vote of the Hellenic Parliament. The FHW's mission is to preserve Hellenic history and tradition, to foster awareness of the universal dimension of Hellenism and to contribute to general cultural evolution. The Foundation has created web sites of historical content and a laboratory of three-dimensional reconstructions. The organization holds conferences, seminars, film projections, production of printed publications, as well as visual and sound recordings through the use of state-of-the-art technology, of scientific or educational content. A significant aim is the management of historical and cultural information through research and collection of documentation material, the operation of a Digital Library and the maintenance of a Genealogy Department.

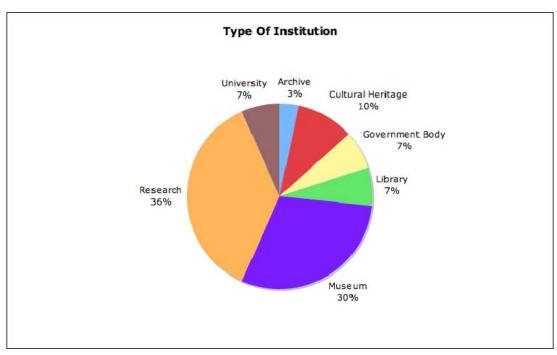
The **Nordic Library** is a joint venture by the four archaeological institutes of Sweden (working in Greece since 1948), Finland (1984), Norway (1989), and Denmark (1992). The Library contains 40.000 volumes mainly in the field of Greek archaeology and of ancient Greek religion and history, including 450 periodicals. The Library mainly caters towards Nordic scholars but also welcomes both Greek and foreign scholars who are members of the various research institutions and archaeological schools of Greece.

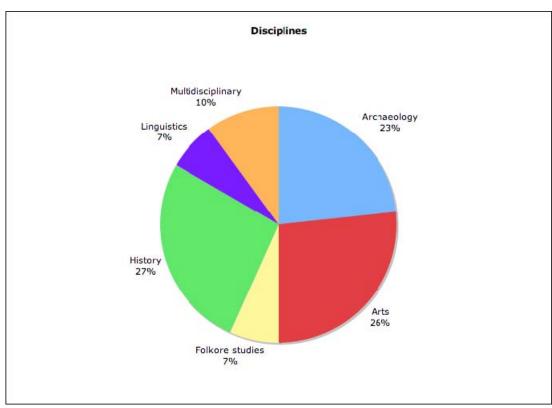
The **Glinos Foundation** belongs to Professor Andreas Glinos, son of the famous educator and philosopher Dimitris Glinos. In March 1990 the Glinos Foundation was officially established as a non-profit institution. It aims primarily at the preservation and study of the archival collection and the published works of Dimitris Glinos.

### **Appendix C: Participant Categorization**

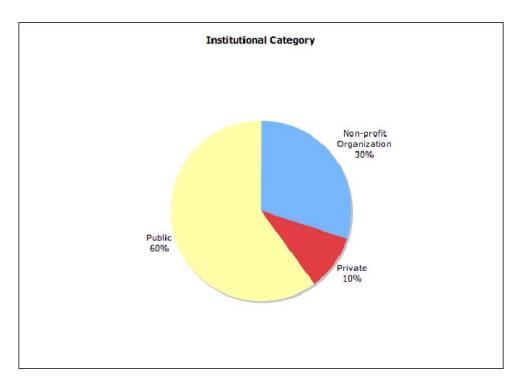
The following charts are a graphic representation of the breakdown of the surveyed institutions by type, discipline, category and location.

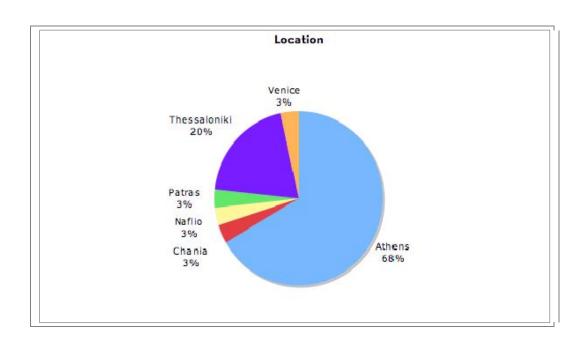




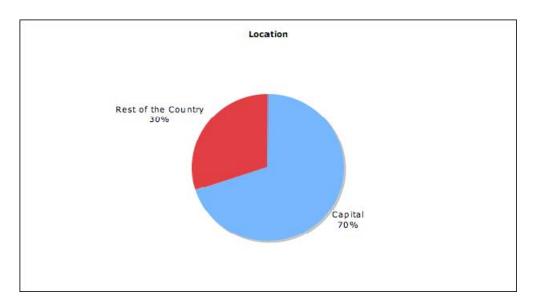












# **Appendix D: Survey Questionnaire**

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Current Status & Assessment
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12. Please give a brief description of your organization's policy and
targets in relation to modernization of research activities.

- 13. Is there in your view a coherent national strategy within regard to the development and encouragement of digital research in the humanities?
- () Yes () No () I don't know
- 14. Which do you think are the main obstacles for the implementation of a national digital infrastructure that would serve the arts and humanities? (You can select more than one options.)
- () Absence of governmental policy
- () Limited funding sources
- () Researchers' disinterest
- () Researches' reluctance



() Lack of education and training () Other
15. How would you rate Greece as compared to other European countries with respect to digital research organization and implementation in the arts & humanities?
Perfect Very good Good Moderate Insufficient Absent  Greece
16. What is the level of preparation of your organization for supporting researchers' digital methodology?  ( ) None ( ) Elementary ( ) Adequate ( ) Satisfactory
DARIAH Participation Perspective
17. Have you participated or are you currently participating in a digitization project?  ( ) Yes ( ) No
18. Are these projects internet accessible? If yes, please provide the addresses (urls). (If the question does not apply, you may skip this question.)  () No  () Yes 1.  () Yes 2.  () Yes 3.  () More than 3 urls
19. Which is the main funding source for your research projects?  Funding source



20. Does your organization have a service dedicated to the support of
users' needs in digital research?
( ) Yes ( ) No
21. Would you like to participate in the DARIAH initiative in one or
more of the following ways? (If yes, please select one or more
options.)
() Content providing
() Digital curation
() Research methodology
() Tools for digital research
() Participation in user requirements plan
() Not interested
() Other
22. We welcome your thoughts and/ or comments with respect to this questionnaire-survey.
23. If you care to receive information on the results of this survey,
please let us know.
( ) Yes ( ) No
Appendix E: References
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