Copyright Literacy of specialists from libraries and other cultural institutions
International Survey
Summary of Results
October 2016

1. Brief description

For the target group of the online based questionnaire survey (Lymesurvey) on "Copyright Literacy of specialists from libraries and other cultural institutions" are prefered managers and professionals responsible for the information service of users in library and other cultural institutions (archives, museums etc.).

The goal of the empirical study is to identify, analyze and summarize how far the respondents are familiar with copyright issues directly related to the leaded by them institution and the services provided to consumers.

The questionnaire consists of 4 panels with questions. It includes closed, half-open (through applying 5-degree scale of Likert) and open questions. The first panel aims to establish the knowledge and awareness of the respondents on the issues of copyright. The second panel covers issues registering the attitude of the respondents towards the development and application of copyright policy in library and cultural institutions. The third panel covers issues related to the proposed academic and continuing education on issues concerning the protection of intellectual property in programs on library and information science, archival science and cultural heritage sciences. The fourth panel aims to gather the demographic information and information about the educational and professional experience of the respondents.

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2. Survey implementation

The Survey on "Copyright Literacy of specialists from libraries and other cultural institutions" was implemented in two stages: on the first stage in Bulgaria, Croatia, France and Turkey during July 2013 – March 2014 and in the period of June - March 2015 the same survey was conducted in Finland, Hungary, Lithuania, Mexico, Norway, Portugal, Romania, United Kingdom and the USA.

Model of collaboration - Our research group follows the same model of collaboration, established from Serap Kurbanoğlu with Information Literacy Survey of LIS students. Joumana Boustany managed the LymeSurvey implementation and collection of data.

3. Publications:

Until now were published the comparative results for the four countries (BG, CR, FR, TR), participated in the first stage (Todorova et. al., 2014) and national surveys results for Bulgaria, Finland, France, United Kingdom and United States of America (USA) (Boustany, 2014; Estell and Saunders, 2016; Kortelainen, 2015; Morrison and Secker, 2015; Todorova and Trencheva, 2014). Papers with results from Lithuania and Portugal are in print.

Comparative publications:


In progress: Paper, which aim is to present summarized and cross-country comparative results and conclusions about the thirteen surveyed countries and to contribute to ongoing discussions about copyright issues in library and cultural sector and the needed updates in LIS academic education curricula and in lifelong training programs.

National results publications:

Boustany, J. (2014), "Copyright Literacy of librarians in France", in Kurbanoğlu, S. et. al. (eds.) Information Literacy : Lifelong Learning and Digital Citizenship in the 21st Century : 2nd European Conference on


4. International Research Team

Copyright Literacy Survey research team includes the following researchers:

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The Survey is in process of implementation in Spain:

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5. Other resources:

Website of the research project “Copyright Policies of libraries and other cultural institutions”: https://copyrightlib.unibit.bg - Tania Todorova, University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Copyright Literacy website: https://copyrightliteracy.org - Jane Secker, Chris Morrison, United Kingdom
During the first phase of the project “Copyright Policies of libraries and other cultural institutions”, an extensive literature search and review was carried out. As a result, a thematic bibliography which includes about 3200 records, titled as Copyright Publications (2003-2013), was prepared and published.
