

Shortening the intellectual distances in Europe: psychological publishing activity in Bulgaria

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Abstract

The level of contemporary researchers' publication activity in the sphere of psychology in Bulgaria is analyzed. The most authoritative Bulgarian psychological journals are presented with the specific characteristics of the process of acceptance and publication of the articles. In addition, some of the journals in other scientific fields which publish psychological materials are discussed as well. The crucial problems that the psychological knowledge published in Cyrillic faces, are outlined. Also, the issues and expectations related to the project Open Access European Publication Platform.

Key words: psychology; scientific communication; information dissemination; journals; language; open access; online publishing; Bulgaria

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The development of society is to be based on knowledge – that's one of the major priorities of the European Union in recent years. That's also one of the major requirements for the different countries in order for them to be competitive and also a basic premise for the realization of the Lisbon Strategy by the whole European Union. However, the development in each country is not uniform and constant and it is namely the presence of real problems that determines the creation of different strategies. The specific cultural and historical, economical, psychological preconditions assign different directions of the progress in knowledge and its publishing realization. Throughout the history of mankind knowledge has been treated with both respect and distrust and scientists have been prosecuted and the progress of mankind could have been restrained. Although nowadays knowledge is not threatened by different institutions, medieval inquisitions or fanatic ideologists, it is probably facing its strongest opposition today. Present challenges are based on a far larger-scale basis than the persecutions of Galileo or Socrates – mass commercial culture turns out to be much more dangerous for knowledge and its bearers. This mass character of the culture is made possible by the powerful electronic media and the tabloid journalism. There is also something in the dynamics of the modern times that tolerates the easier, quicker acceptance of an insipid film or novel, of a facile popular book over the profound intellectual effort. This has become clear because one of the important tasks for contemporary researchers is to draw young people's attention to the innovative, valuable knowledge, because that is maybe the only way we can assure that we could rely on the constructive and creative strengths of people in the future. That is why, just like the commercial culture, which is skillful in attracting attention, the intellectual elite has to ensure wider fields, more and more visited web sites that can serve as a more interesting matrix, in comparison to the other, mass matrix. Could the scientific internet matrix become really popular – that depends to a great degree on our shared efforts.

One of the important specifics of the Internet is that it enables parallel comparison of hypotheses by different researchers on different socio-cultural excerpts and thus many online cross-cultural studies can be made. That's also a hypothesis that could be verified in time. Much more intense connections between researchers from different parts of Europe can probably be established. The dynamic development of present society (the so-called "postmodern society") comprises many different and diverse tendencies. On the one hand, there are processes of integration and globalization. A major premise for those processes is the presence of diverse, democratic societies, in which pluralism of attitudes and ideas is tolerated. On the other hand, there are opposing tendencies and processes of separatism and nationalism that often turns into chauvinism, which are caused by specific national and regional traditions, but also by the widespread ideas in such societies that the interventions of the others, the different, could affect their own self-identification values within their indeed important, but very restricted socio-nationalistic world. In order to realize the project "European identity", as Habermas and Derrida note, "*The citizens of one nation must regard the citizens of another nation as fundamentally 'one of us'*". (Habermas and Derrida, 2003, p.293)

It is however a fact that the world demonstrates ever more persistently the need for a union, without the obliteration of diversity, the need for ideas, innovative inventions in both knowledge and practice, for joint efforts of different people, groups, societies for the achievement of a higher degree of tolerance in the world. The modern European society is more and more confidently heading towards an integration of interests, activities and long-term goals. One of the main integration aspects is to increase the mutual exchange of ideas, new conceptions and models, which strongly reflects on the psychological knowledge and generates an auspicious and

favorable milieu for its dissemination. In regard to such an integration, the permanent confirmation of the European public sphere which “*will* rather emerge from the mutual opening of existing national universes to one another, yielding to an interpenetration of mutually translated national communications” (Habermas, 2001, p.18), is probably the best guarantee for the assertion of the common European values and processes.

As an important element and a mediator in the public sphere, the electronic media spread social representations among huge amount of people faster than everything else. Internet, a powerful mediator of information, has an increasing role in the consolidation of the regulative role of social representations on social behavior and public opinion and even an increasing impact on scientific thinking and standards of research. That means that even concrete or strictly scientific representations can change their regulative role on contemporary European psychological knowledge (Zografova, 2008), depending on how well they are spread on the Internet. For example, European theories and concepts, like the Social Identity Theory of Tajfel and Turner (Tajfel & Turner, 1986, Tajfel, 1981) or the Social Representations Theory of Moscovici (Moscovici, 1988) and their subsequent theories, which have an important place in psychological knowledge and are able to explain a lot of psychological phenomena, could be quickly acquired and internalized by the younger people – students and PhDs. That way, the whole development of psychological knowledge can be reoriented. It doesn't mean to create an opposition of the American psychology. On the contrary, if classical ideas such as G. H. Mead's symbolic-interactionism theory are viewed in a way other than the conservative one, this would give a new direction towards the integration of different perspectives of knowledge, including the integration of European and American psychology (Zografova, 2005). In fact, the use of the global web – the Internet is maybe one of the most important means of bringing the concepts of researchers from different countries closer; because without the help of such an universal mediator between different cultures, our scientific concepts and knowledge will, more or less, develop in separate similar, or different spirals, but it will be very difficult to unite them in one, considerably faster evolving spiral. For example, one of the major barriers for us as Bulgarian scientists is the linguistic specifics of the Cyrillic alphabet, in which most of our publications are written, because very few of our colleagues from other European countries can read it. Of course, the linguistic problem will occur in the Net as well, because, if everything accepted is to be published in English, and then eventually translated in some of the other languages in the EU, it's unlikely that every article, lecture etc. can be translated in every language used by the different scientists. But, as Habermas notes, at least for now there is no other effective alternative. “The official multilingualism of EU institutions is necessary for the mutual recognition of the equal worth and integrity of all national cultures. However, under the veil of this legal guarantee it becomes all the easier to use English as a working language at face-to-face level, wherever the parties lack another common idiom. This is in fact what now happens anyway, in ever wider circles. Small countries like the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway or Sweden provide good examples of the capacity of formal education in schools to spread English as a second ‘first’ language, across their whole populations.” (Habermas, 2001, p.19)

Nevertheless, Internet is a reliable place for exchanging theories, ideas, and methods for applying them in the easiest way possible. All this becomes even more important because of the fact that such a place for easy exchange of ideas facilitates the participation of younger scientists and students.

Psychology and publication activity in Bulgaria.

Psychology has firm traditions in Bulgarian scientific knowledge. Psychological knowledge has been developed since the beginning of the previous century by Bulgarian philosophers, ethno-psychologists, psychoanalysts etc. Later, psychology was institutionalized by psychological departments in universities, by the institution of an academic section – first, the Laboratory of Psychology, then the Institute of Psychology of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS). For the last 35 years the Institute of Psychology has been successfully developing the major psychological disciplines like personality psychology, social psychology, psychophysiology, organizational psychology, and cognitive psychology. Despite the dynamic changes that Bulgarian society went through in the past two decades of transition to democracy, which has affected all the spheres of social, economical and psychological life in the country, scientific research and publication activity did not cease. On the contrary, the emergence of new phenomena increases the need for analysis, for studies of the new socio-psychological forms, the forming of new values, as “the '90s national community crisis, like after every social revolution, led to inflation of values...” and even to denial of the national identity. “To be a world citizen today is exceptionally valuable, noble and elevated when it's a civilization stage which does not eliminate the other stages from the existence of society.” (Draganov, 2006, p.310). On the one hand, the specific manifestation of adaptation mechanisms provoked by the stress that the social changes cause, the destructive, depressive or hyperactive behavior reactions provoke a serious scientific interest for both fundamental, theoretical studies and applied studies, intended to incorporate psychological knowledge in practice and help people, social groups and the whole society to overcome many difficult conditions of present-day reality. On the other hand, new developing normative orientations towards the processes of integration and globalization that occur in Europe and in the rest of the world also draw the researchers' attention (Zografova, 2005). The degree of relative autonomy of social knowledge (and psychological knowledge in particular) from the development of society depends a lot on the degree of development of democratic thinking and tolerance towards new ideas in the country. In Bulgaria, the tolerance towards innovative ideas has risen considerably in recent years.

Contemporary Bulgarian psychologists develop a modern science by incorporating the achievements of global psychology, but also by creating a methodology and forming original scientific ideas, concepts and models of their own. On regularly held conferences and national congresses, public meetings with the participation of the media, significant scientific achievements and results, which concern different social groups, social subjects and situations, are presented. After such conferences, usually the reports are published in many editions and that increases the publication realization of the scientists. The number of monographs is also increasing. Here I can present as an example, the publication realization of the scientists from our Institute (Fig.1).

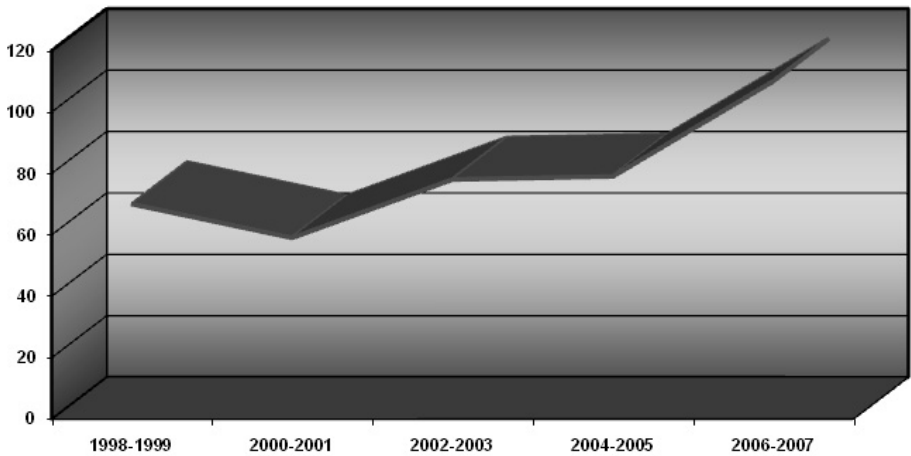


Figure 1:

Numbers of Publications of the scientists of the Institute of Psychology -per year

Scientific journals – problems, accessibility, publication process, financial problems.

The main and most authoritative scientific psychological journals in Bulgaria

1) The Institute of Psychology of BAS began to issue the first and only academic psychology journal in Bulgaria in 1998 that succeeds the previous psychology series with the same name. Today, the “*Psychological research*” journal (http://www.ipsyh.bas.bg/journal_bg.htm) already has a 10 year history and it guarantees regular and timely publicity of the published scientific results from studies of the scientists in the Institute of Psychology of BAS, but also from other psychologists from the country and from other countries. Articles with theoretical analyses, experimental studies, and also analyses of psychotherapeutic interviews etc. are published. Of course, a good variety of problems are treated, the most characteristic of which being: comparative cross-cultural studies of values, national identity, regulative mechanisms of aggression, the influence of the media on behavior, concepts on terrorism, political communication in the public sphere, professional stress and satisfaction from work, subjective well-being of people, cognitive and motivational phenomena, problems of psychophysiology etc. The journal is bilingual and although most of the articles are published in Bulgarian, one might publish his material in English. Foreign scientists are published in English as well. There is also a section for introducing books on psychological themes, mainly by scientists from the Institute of Psychology, but also, sometimes, by external authors. Special attention is paid to the publication activity of the young scientists. Articles by young scientists are published in every issue, and in recent years, a separate issue is dedicated especially to materials, that had been presented by young scientists in the PhD school, held by the Institute of Psychology. The whole process of issuing the journal is managed by an editorial staff, which consists of representatives of the Institute, usually one

or two scientists from every department, for that every major psychology field – personality, social, cognitive, work and organizational or applied psychology can be represented. Very important is the participation of foreign scientists as members of the Editorial Board, like Prof. Robert Roo (from 1998 till 2002), from University of Tilburg, Netherlands, Prof. Gerold Mikula (from 2002) from the University of Graz, Austria, Prof. Howard Polio (from 2002 till 2007) from the University of Tennessee, USA. Since 2007, members of the editorial staff include Prof. Anatolii Jurvaliov, from Russian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Gerold Mikula from University of Graz and Prof. Sasho Kochankovski from the “St. Kliment Ohridski” University in Bitola, Macedonia.

A group of reviewers – well-known scientists from the Institute of Psychology-BAS, the Sofia University, the New Bulgarian University etc. contribute voluntarily to the journal and its publication process. They are fully responsible for the editing of the journal, especially for sustaining a high academic, scientific and technical level.

“Psychological Research” is distributed in the bookstores of the universities in Sofia like the Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and New Bulgarian University, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences bookstore, and also in some university bookstores in other cities in Bulgaria. It’s also distributed by two subscription companies.

The main aim of the journal is to spread scientific psychological knowledge and to provide primarily the scientists from the Institute, but also psychologists from other institutes with a permanent possibility to publish their materials and with a forum for their discoveries. With better financial conditions however, the journal could be issued more often, because there is enough scientific production.

Apart from articles by Bulgarian authors, the journal also publishes a small amount of articles by foreign authors, or co-written by Bulgarian and foreign authors. Until now, articles by scientists from Hungary, Germany, Spain, Russia, USA, Macedonia, Netherlands etc. have been published. It is probable that if the distribution of the journal widens, with a direct invitation to universities, institutes etc. more articles by foreign authors will be submitted. Unfortunately, most of the articles are published in Bulgarian and that prevent scientists and students from other countries from reading the journal.

About 10 articles are published in each issue of the journal. Articles are rarely rejected – approximately one article at every two issues is cast aside. That can be explained by the fact, that due to the good reputation of the journal amongst academic and university scientists, articles that don’t have an interesting and actual theme, or lack quality of the scientific research and competence of the author, are rarely submitted. The journal relies on a certain grant from Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and also on its own profits from sales and subscriptions.

2) One of the other often read scientific psychological journals in the country is the “*Bulgarian Journal of Psychology*” (<http://bjop.wordpress.com/>), published by the Bulgarian Psychological Society. That journal was stopped for a long time, but restarted publication in a new form in 2005.

The editorial staff consists of representatives of different branches of psychology, as well as, representatives from different psychological institutes in Bulgaria – The Institute of Psychology of BAS, The Sofia University “Sv. Kl. Ohridski”, The National Sports Academy, New Bulgarian University, etc. The Bulgarian psychology journal gives a forum for publications by psychologists from all over the country. The society that publishes the

journal also organizes national psychology congresses every three years. All of the papers are published in congress proceedings. The papers that are not submitted on time and are not published in the proceedings are published in the journal. A report for the congress is also published in the journal and different national or international conferences are presented in it.

The materials, published in the journal include survey articles, theoretical analyses, empirical research and different materials, related to the problem of the status of the psychologists in Bulgaria – normative documents, the statute of the Society, Ethical code etc. and also materials about the practical psychology. The journal is issued four times a year. The process of acceptance, reviewing and publishing of the articles continues up to six months. Every material is reviewed by either a member of the editorial staff or an external expert in the given sphere. If there is a negative review, the article is rarely rejected immediately. Usually, the opinion of another expert is considered, and if it is negative as well, the article is rejected. About six to seven articles are published in every issue of the journal. Here, as in the other issues, financial factors play a key and unfortunately, not a very positive role. The journal is distributed in every university bookstore in Bulgaria and also by subscription. A good part of the journal's back issues are available online on the website of the Society. That doesn't include the issues from 2006 and 2007, which are still for sale. The publishing of the journal is sponsored by different donors, but not regularly.

Both issues – The Psychological Research and the Bulgarian Journal of Psychology often sell back issues at lower prizes, especially to students.

3) The Department of Psychology at the South-West University "Neofit Rilski" in Blagoevgrad started the edition of a scientific review "*Psychological Thought*" in 2006. It publishes articles in Bulgarian and in English. An abstract in English and one in Russian are obligatory for each paper. Every number contains at least ten papers and one or two of them are in English, the others are in Bulgarian. Two numbers per year are published. When a new number is published, it is distributed to the subscribers and a kind letter announcing the fact of publication and containing the necessary information for subscription is sent by post to all Bulgarian universities and to a lot of city libraries. In this way, the periodical managed to attract some new subscribers, mainly among the city and university libraries. All Bulgarian (and foreign) authors may send their papers to be published in this periodical. The time lag between submission and publication is about six months. The time of publishing depends on some financial causes, as well as on the reviewer's opinion and the needed corrections in the article. Every article is reviewed by one person, the most often the reviewer is one of the Editorial board of this periodical. Every number contains a theoretical part, a research part, and one section titled "Viewpoints" includes articles provoking discussion. Some students' articles are presented also and there is a sections for "New books" and "News items" where the information about some events (like meetings, conferences, celebrations) is published.

The publishing is sponsored by the Department of Law and History. It usually takes half a year after a material is submitted for it to be reviewed and published. The journal is not for sale – the authors of the articles receive an issue, as do subscribers and some of the numbers are given away to colleagues. One issue costs approximately 500 euro.

The common characteristic stages in the process of accepting and publishing

The articles in the psychology scientific journals in Bulgaria are, as follows: usually, after an article is submitted and a certain amount of articles is gathered, the editors classify the articles for **review** according to the specifics of the problems examined in the articles. Then, if there is, among the editors, someone who is a specialist in the specific sphere of psychology of the submitted articles, he reviews the respective articles. Otherwise, the journals give the articles to external reviewers, who are competent in the given field of psychology. If there is a dissent between the editor-in-chief and the reviewer, or the reviewer is hesitating, the article is given to another reviewer and then an editorial decision is made whether to publish the particular article. The whole process of accepting an article, reviewing, then, if necessary, returning the article to the author for corrections, then another reviewing of the article by the reviewer and by the editor-in-chief, and finally publication, continues for about a few months. The period differs, depending on the size of each volume, the specifics of the materials and the financial conditions – the costs for each volume. The conditions are slightly different in different journals. About 8-10 articles are published in each issue of every journal. Financial factors play a key and unfortunately, not a very positive role. The journals are distributed in every university bookstore in Bulgaria and also by subscription. The profits from selling the journals are usually just enough to cover the expenses for the next issue, i.e. there are no actual financial profits. For an illustration one volume of the journal costs approximately between 3.00 and 3.50 euro. The subscription prizes are low for all journals.

Other scientific journals

Psychological papers are published also in some other scientific journals. Psychology materials are published in some other journals as well – sociology, philosophy and educational journals for example. Apart from that, most of the universities, which have a psychology department issue their own yearbooks, in which they present their scientific research work and the achievements of the professors of the university. External authors can publish in those yearbooks as well, but the problem is that they have to wait longer for such a publication, because the yearbook is published only once a year and the professors in the university, that issues the yearbook have a higher priority. There are of course some journals with popular psychology essays, interviews, tests and so on as well.

“*Sociological Problems*” is the only academic journal in Bulgaria addressing issues of sociology. It was established in 1968 as a quarterly issued by the Institute of Sociology at the Bulgarian Academy of Science in conjunction with the Bulgarian Sociological Association. The “*Sociological Problems*” journal (www.sociology-bg.org) is included in the Central and Eastern European Online Library journal, but the access is via an institutional or personal subscription. The main ambition of the editors is sociological knowledge to meet the challenges, presented by the democratic changes in the social sphere of social processes in Bulgaria. Another idea behind the journal is to create a forum for discussions for the intellectual elite, where relevant dispositions can be formed to the present-day public discourse democratic socio-cultural. The journal is trying to develop modern sociological knowledge that can interpret the social word and social changes. It is open for ideas from

scientists in Bulgaria and other countries – prominent authors from different countries have been published so far. Psychological and especially socio-psychological materials, which stand on the border of sociological and psychological knowledge, have always been published in the journal. Articles for the journal are always reviewed by highly competent professionals in the given sphere. One of the major aims of the journal is students and applicants for a doctor's degree to participate actively in the discussions and that is why there is a permanent section "Debuts".

The "*Philosophical Alternatives*" journal is an edition of the Institute for Philosophical Research of BAS. (<http://www.philosophybulgaria.org/Publikacii/FilosofskiAlternativi/index.php>). It is a successor of the "Philosophical thought" journal, which was created in 1947 and has an almost 60 year history. Articles from all the major fields of philosophy (ontology, epistemology, philosophy of science, history of philosophy, philosophical anthropology, philosophy of history, history of the scientific knowledge, ethics, aesthetics, logic, and even political science, sociology and psychology) are published. Also published are articles, or parts of notable works of eminent international scientists, philosophers of science, political scientists and sociologists. Among the discussed themes are the significant aspects of modern reality like the complex changes in Bulgarian society, globalization of today's world etc. Reviews of Bulgarian and international philosophical publications are published, as well as reports from seminars, conferences, congresses held in Bulgaria or elsewhere in the world. Since 2002 three double volumes per year are issued. "Philosophical Alternatives" is also included in the Central and Eastern European Online Library, but also gives all of its publications for free on the Internet.

The periodical "*Pedagogy*" has been edited by the Institute of Education in Sofia at the Bulgarian Ministry of Education since 1990. It is a successor of the periodical "Public Instruction" published since 1928. It is a monthly journal, widespread and a lot of people have access to it. It is sold in some university bookstores and it can be found in many city libraries. It publishes articles only in Bulgarian. At the end of each number, there are two or three summaries in Russian of the prominent articles presented in this number. The time lag between the submission of an article and its publication is three-fourth months depending on the thematic content of the number.

There is also an organized virtual system for publicizing articles in most of the scientific fields, including the sphere of Humanities and Social science – International Scientific Journal. It is an international project with partners from different countries, coordinated by BAS and the Scientists Association in Bulgaria. For publicizing an article, after it is already reviewed and approved the author must pay 100 euro. The materials are published online on <http://www.ejournalnet.com>. The access to the site is free and the materials are also available on CD Rom.

Impact factor

Measuring the influence of our publications is complicated. They are published in Bulgarian and that's why they can't be included in the international system for measuring the impact factor. Furthermore, publications in Bulgarian are rarely cited in English or other sources that use Latin alphabet and the respective Western European languages. In Eastern European countries it's problematic too to cite Bulgarian publications, except for the

Russians – in Russia and in other countries. The same thing applies for quotation of Russian publications in Bulgaria. In conclusion, the measuring of the impact factor should be carried out on a national level, i.e. to include all sciences. On the other hand, the international system could be optimized, as to include publications and quotations from post-socialistic countries as well. Otherwise it seems that in Bulgaria for a period of 11 years – from 1996 to 2007 – only 124 psychological materials have been published which makes a couple of articles per year, while, as mentioned above, at least a couple of dozens of scientific papers in the sphere of psychology are issued every year. So the calculation of the index (in Scimago 2007) is not based on the real production but just on a few publications, edited in English and quoted.

Most of those quoted above in the present article Bulgarian journals, and especially the psychological, have the possibility and publish bilingual articles, but nevertheless publications in English are rare. There are a few reasons for that. First of all, the authors are not paid for their articles and despite the fact that many of them know English, and some of them know also French or German, in order for their publications to be grammatically and linguistically correct, most of them would prefer to give their texts to a professional translator. On the other hand, very few numbers of each journal are distributed abroad and that does little to stimulate the authors to expect that their work will be widely-known outside of Bulgaria. And in Bulgaria, of course, the Bulgarian version of the publication will be more popular.

An important fact that can eventually lead to greater possibilities for the distribution of the journals in other countries is the participation of foreign psychologists and scientists in the editorial staffs of the journals. But in reality, their participation is more in an expert role, which means that it is more important for the journal itself, than for the readers and the distribution.

Publications and Scientific career

An important aspect of the significance of the publication activity of researchers is that mainly thanks to their publications, the scientists are able to work for scientific institutes and universities, i.e. it is an inter-dependent relation that, so to say, correlates – the more publications a scientist make, the more quickly he receives the different degrees, titles, scientific posts, expert positions in different commissions etc. For example, to acquire a PhD's degree, a young scientist must have already published three or four articles, related to his dissertation theme. And in order to acquire a professor's title, senior researchers are required to have submitted over 60-70 publications besides their second doctoral thesis.

Open Access European Publication Platform – Issues and Expectations

- If the project envisions a completely free access, that means that such a platform will have a significant effect on large groups of readers
- Publishing specialists won't waste any considerable time for waiting for the long process of publishing to conclude
- Scientists will have an easy access to publications of colleagues from different countries

- Non-specialists, and especially students and PhD students, which naturally prefer reading for free on the Internet, than buying or photocopying journals, can read the publications.
- Another possible positive effect of such an open and easily accessible European psychological sphere is the possibility for creating professional connections and mutual scientific projects in a way easier than before, because everyone will have timely information about the development of the scientific work of his colleagues from his or another country and will have their coordinates.
- A question arises: what exactly will “open access” mean. Will that be equally valid for the publishing scientists and the readers on Internet? Will everyone have a free access to this source, or will it be open for specialists and registered psychologists only? As I mentioned earlier, some of our journals publish the whole issues online and for a small prize (two to three euro) everyone can read a particular article. In fact, that’s common for many international journals, but the prices are not always that accessible in all the countries. A student or PhD student will probably find it difficult to pay 25 euro or more for every material. Besides, in Bulgaria payments via credit card are still not very popular and that hinders purchases of articles and other materials from the Internet.
- Also important is the moment in connection with reviewing the articles if such an open European platform for publications is created. There must be a permanent board or more specifically a list of reviewers, who are motivated to prepare their reviews fast so as to not delay the articles like printed editions. This means providing a large enough number of reviewers.
- The question of language is among the very important ones. English is anyway the most common mediator of scientific communication (as well as most other kinds of communication). But does it have to be compulsory in the European publication platform or could there be options of parallel publication in mother tongue and English or some other option.
- The problem which could arise when orienting towards publication in the European platform – it should either be possible to published simultaneously the same articles in the corresponding national language in the printed editions in the country of the author or there would be a discrepancy as authors would not be able to equally intensively publish different materials on the Net in English and in the journals in their language.

Finally, the most important aspects of scientific work touch its connection to social practice, to current events of the day, time or of the community, the nation, the European Union. With a secure nonstop fast exchange of publications with free access a lot of problems would be solved more effectively, with more innovative ideas – for instance migration in Europe and the psychological problems regarding personal adaptation that arise from it, the integration in new cultural environment, the inter-group and inter-personal relations, etc. The statement of the EC on the problems of the access and dissemination of the scientific information in the digital age sounds hopeful: “Within FP7, the Commission will take measures to promote better access to the publications resulting from the research it funds. In this context, project costs related to publishing, including open access publishing, will be eligible for a Community financial contribution. The Commission will encourage the research community to make use of this possibility.” (Commission of EK, Brussels, 2007, p.8) And moreover, “Discussions in the European Parliament and Council will contribute to a common understanding of access and dissemination issues at European level. In this respect, the Member States are invited to explore possible common strategies and to discuss

the relevant issues and challenges (organizational, legal, technical and financial) highlighted in this Communication. Instruments such as ERA-NET and for such as CREST and ESFRI could contribute to shaping the discussion”(ibidem, p.9).

In conclusion, it can be said that the options and possibilities for publication are different but the perspective for exchange and integration in the development of knowledge between psychologists from all European countries does not have an alternative.

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