



Intellectual Property Education in University Environment in Bulgaria

Tereza Trencheva, Stoyan Denchev

State University of Library Studies and Information Technologies. - SULSIT (Bulgaria)

t.trencheva@unibit.bg, s.denchev@unibit.bg

Abstract

Scientific interest in the problems of Intellectual Property in the digital realm takes an important position in research. Copyright and legal issues in the digital reality are of interest for researchers and practitioners, in both, the member countries of the European Union and throughout the world. There are many discussion issues related to the problematic of Intellectual Property Rights, Copyright and the Internet, but a thorough study of intellectual property as part of the information literacy of students is missing in some European countries including Bulgaria.

The paper aims to present a project of the State University for Library Studies and Information Technologies. "Analysis of the common practices in the use of products of intellectual property in university information environment." DMU 03/3 is a project led by Dr. Teresa Trencheva funded by the National Science Fund of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science in the competition "Young Scientists". The project aims to explore the mind and culture of behavior among young people in Bulgaria, particularly students, to protect intellectual property on the Internet.

The research team, united around a project concept involves young scientists, some experienced researchers and graduate students working in the field of intellectual property, library and information sciences, cultural heritage and information technology and complies with interdisciplinary issues of the project.

In progress is the first stage of the project, and the questionnaire and survey have already been a fact. The survey has been conducted among the students in nine Bulgarian universities accredited in the educational and professional field "Public Communication and Information Science." The survey aims to explore, analyze and summarize the level of the respondents' familiarity with the issues related to Intellectual property protection from the lectures at the university, and what is also their attitude about the preservation and protection of copyright in the Internet.

An extremely important moment of the project's program is the site visit of the World Intellectual Property Organization which held in January, 2013. Some of the purposes of the site visit in WIPO were to discuss some very important items for the dissemination of Intellectual Property knowledge and the opportunity of SULSIT to become a member of the Global Intellectual Property Network and part of The WIPO Academic Institutions Program.

An important objective of the project is the accumulation of research material which finds application in updating existing training programs related to the study of intellectual property and direct application in the educational process. The sustainability of the project results in perspective will be achieved by creating a project web site, digital library and online journal - platforms for future development and promotion of international collaboration with colleagues from the country and abroad.