

Shortening the intellectual distances in Europe



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■ The development of society to be based on knowledge – that's one of the major priorities of the European Union in recent years

■ The specific cultural and historical, economical, psychological preconditions assign different directions of the progress in knowledge and its publishing realization



Psychology and publication activity in Bulgaria

- Psychological knowledge has been developed since the beginning of the previous century by Bulgarian philosophers, ethno-psychologists, psychoanalysts etc.
- Bulgarian society went through dynamic changes in the past two decades of transition to democracy which have affected all the spheres of social, economical and psychological life in the country



■ The emergence of new phenomena increases the need for analysis, for studies of the new socio-psychological forms

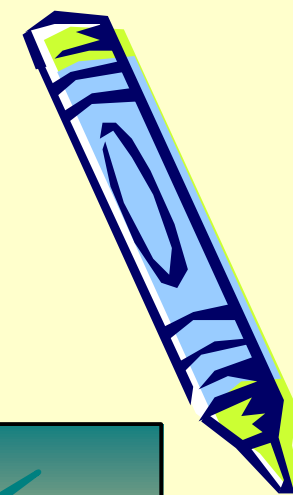
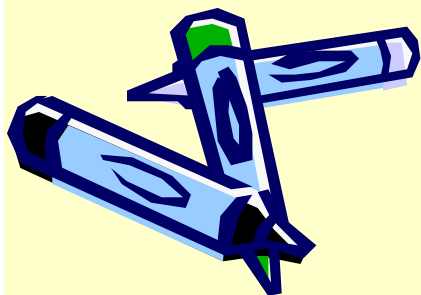
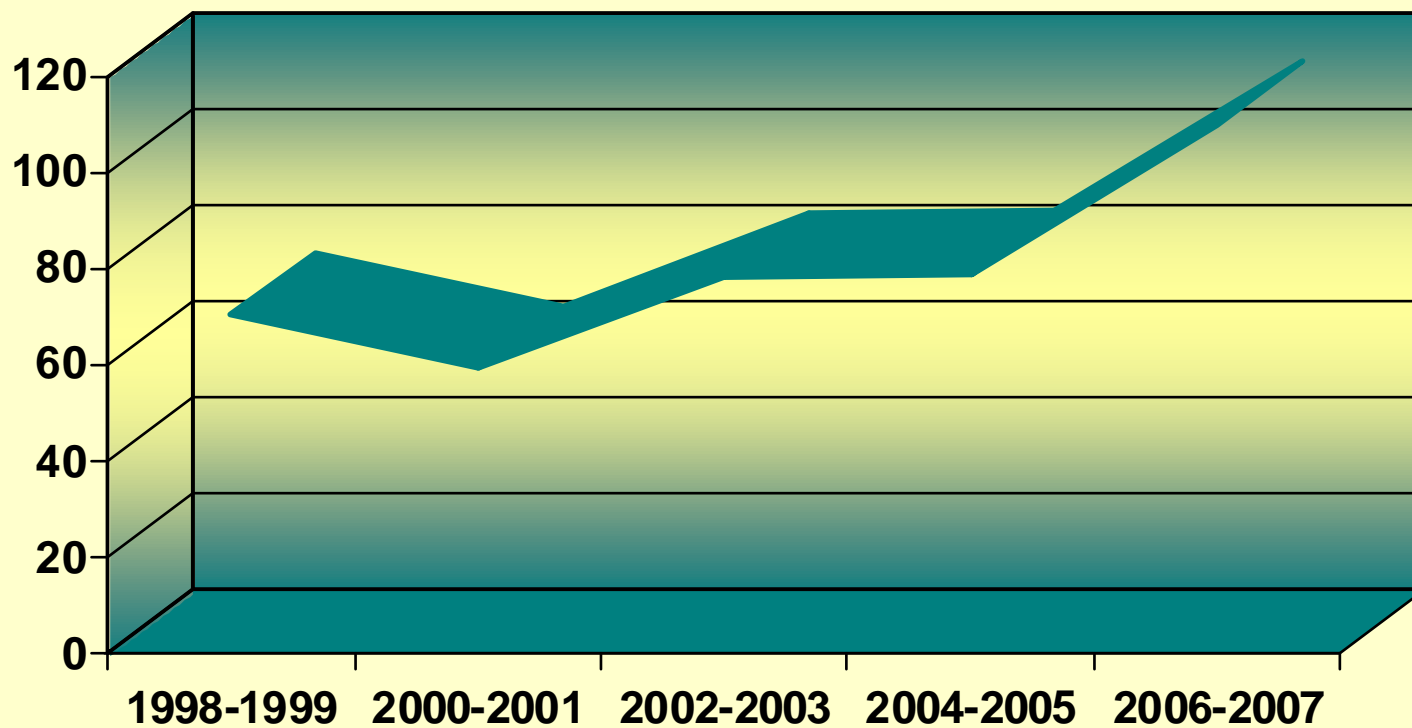
■ New values and normative orientations towards the processes of integration and globalization



- For the last 35 years the Institute of Psychology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has been successfully developing the major psychological disciplines like personality psychology, social psychology, psychophysiology, organizational psychology, cognitive psychology.



Publication Activity of the Institute Scientists




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




The main and most authoritative scientific psychological journals in Bulgaria:

- **“Psychological research”** - The Institute of Psychology of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences /BAS/ began to issue the first and only academic psychology journal in Bulgaria in 1998.
- The journal is bilingual – in Bulgarian and in English
- Participation of foreign scientists as members of the Editorial Board
- Special attention is paid to the publication activity of the young scientists



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- **“Bulgarian Journal of psychology”** - published by the the Bulgarian Psychological Society in Bulgaria
 - Includes, except of scientific psychological articles, different materials, related to the problem of the status of the psychologists in Bulgaria such as normative documents etc.
 - The journal is issued four times a year.
 - A good part of the journal’s back issues are available online on the website of the Society

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- **“Psychological Thought”** - a scientific review, published by the South-West University “Neofit Rilski” in Blagoevgrad
 - Articles in Bulgarian and in English
 - Two numbers per year

Process of accepting and publishing

- Groups of reviewers – well-known researchers from different institutes and universities contribute voluntarily to the journals
 - Reviewing
 - Returning of the article to the author for corrections
 - Accepting an article
- The whole process continues for about few months



- About 8-10 articles are published in each issue of every journal
- The journals are distributed in every university library and bookstore in Bulgaria and also by subscription
- The subscription prizes are low for all journals



Other scientific journals

- **“Sociological Problems”** - quarterly issued by the Institute of Sociology at the Bulgarian Academy of Science in conjunction with the Bulgarian Sociological Association
- Included in the Eastern European Online Library journal, but the access is via an institutional or personal subscription
- **“Philosophical Alternatives”** - a publication of the Institute for Philosophical Research of BAS
- Also included in the Central and Eastern European Online Library, but also gives all of its publications for free on the Internet



- **“Pedagogy”** - has been edited by the Institute of Education in Sofia at the Bulgarian Ministry of Education
- **International Scientific Journal** - an organized virtual system for publicizing articles in most of the scientific fields, including the sphere of Humanities and Social science
- an international project with partners from different countries, coordinated by BAS and the Scientists Association in Bulgaria
- the author must pay 100 euro
- [http:// www.ejournalnet.com](http://www.ejournalnet.com)
- The access to the site is free and the materials are also available on CD



Impact factor

- Measuring the influence of our publications is complicated
 - Published in Bulgarian
 - Not included in the international system for measuring the **impact factor**
- Rarely cited in English or other sources that use Latin alphabet
- The international system could be optimized, as to include publications and quotations from post-socialistic countries as well



Professional career


- Inter-dependent relation between publication activity and professional career at scientific institutes and universities
- To acquire a PhD degree, a young scientist must have already published three or four articles
- To acquire a professor's title, senior researchers are required to have submitted over 60-70 publications plus besides their 2-nd doctoral dissertation




Open Access European Publication Platform – Issues and Expectations

- Significant effect on large groups of readers:
 - Publishing specialists
- Scientists will have an easy access to publications of colleagues from different countries
 - Non-specialists, and especially students and applicants for a doctor's degree, which naturally prefer reading for free on the Internet
- Possibility of creating professional connections and mutual scientific projects way easier than before



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- What exactly will “open access” mean?
 - Will everyone have a free access to this source, or will it be open for specialists and registered psychologists only?
 - There must be a permanent board of a large enough number of reviewers, motivated to prepare their reviews fast

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- The question of language:
 - Does the English language have to be compulsory in the European publication platform
 - Could there be an option of parallel publication in mother tongue and English or some other option
 - It should either be possible the same articles to be published simultaneously 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.

Conclusion

- the options and possibilities for publication are different
- the perspective for exchange and integration in the development of knowledge between psychologists from all European countries does not have an alternative

