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## **Researches in Library and Information Science**

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### **A distinctive perspective on the bibliographic research in the digital era (I)**

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#### **Abstract**

In this essay we intend to underline the importance of bibliographies, in the scientific research process. We aim to emphasize the capability of these works to gather, synthesize in a distinctive manner, types of sources, resources, documents, so that spheres of scientific knowledge benefit of a clear and objective image at a definite moment. Our intention in this approach is to discuss the necessity to create standardized synthesis of the scientific domains through bibliographies, in order to support basic literacy needs of the readers and to offer a global view of the topic explored. A less treated aspect in the scientific literature that we aim to highlight in the present paper is the role and pragmatics of bibliographies, the transdisciplinary dimension of such tools that now, in the globalised era has the power to send the researcher in the virtual space of interconnected documents, of digital archives and libraries offering a comprehensive picture of the subjects investigated.

**Keywords:** *bibliographic research, literacy, reference instruments, knowledge organisation*

The fundamental mission of "Carol I" Central University Library to support learning, teaching and academic research through reference materials (books, periodicals, scientific databases and reference instruments) has a long history. About the utility of bibliographies as respected reference works in the Romanian library and information

science few articles has been written. We intend to label few of the research fields where bibliographies are essential: (a) the study of history, political science and international relations; (b) science and technology; (c) the comparative studies; (d) foreign policy; (e) cultural and literary studies; (f) multicultural studies.

Being inflexible and abstract constructions, with an evolution imposed by international rules and standards, bibliographic works are not recognized and appreciated at their real importance. There are still misconceptions and reserved attitudes towards such works, although any first step in research must begin from using scientific instruments as indexes, bibliographies and dictionaries.

A bibliographic work on a particular topic represents a prized instrument that gathers analyses, studies and organizes them based on interdisciplinary methods of research. It is an open effort of constantly enriching a history with valued documents. No matter subject it treats, a bibliography is an open communication space between the sources and the subject under which the author structures the references.

The explicit language used in a bibliography has a cultural and scientific impact; it is inflexible, claims attention to detail that leads to concepts, processes and standards. The critical interpretation of a bibliographic research offers the reader the possibility to deeply discover the convergence area of investigated subject. A bibliographic research involves knowing writings' meaning, decoding it through a specialized language, through an analytical reading and the appraisal of its importance in the research plan.

A bibliography is a landmark, it guides, directs to the grounds and the manner it may be synthesized belongs to social sciences methods of research. It is a meta-discourse, interdisciplinary systematized, that sends to interconnected texts and contexts, a clear pathway that provide students and research with accurate and valuable documents.

The complexity of a bibliographic approach sends to a particular semantic of information retrieval. Bibliographies must be regarded as referential readings; such works spread a subtle energy; every lecture is an appeal to the authority of a scientific field or system. The judgement applied by the bibliographic specialist is based on a scientific point of view.

The degree of evolution and civilisation is unequal worldwide. The effects of all the interactions of the individual with the world have been known, discovered through cultural events, scientific developments, social and political evolution all noted in scientific congresses, meetings, bilateral visits, cultural cooperation and further disseminated in journals, cultural publications, books and magazines, reports, agreements. The scientific, cultural and creative dimension reflected in the published works explored is also an interesting perspective that the bibliographies mirror. The subjects treated are not equally represented, some domains may be less reflected than others, and that is why critical thinking in a bibliographic study plan has a very important role. It is an experience that discovers the intellectual and cultural history; fill the gap in the literature with studies on special subjects.

There is always a high understanding imposed by the analysis of documents and the manner the historical events are properly mirrored. We can read a text its value as a reference for another text what interests us more. To accomplish such an approach, a classification of information sources is done by librarians: archival documents (that stood as ground of the book) books, periodicals, manuscripts, web pages, multimedia, etc.

We subscribe to Ion Stoica point of view concerning the benefits of reference materials and their contribution to knowledge discovery, knowledge understanding and need for order: *"The new instruments, the information technologies are at their incipient use, their capacities of discovery facilitation, information gathering and combining is not emphasized in new and individual manners of working."* (1)

In this labour intensive process he constructs bridges, makes connections, between information, and models through standard descriptions the world's publications, accomplishing one of the main library information science objectives. The role of the researcher is to create order in a domain chaos using codes and catalogue entries for information searching.

### References

- (1) STOICA, Ion. *Criza în structurile infodocumentare: sensuri și semnificații contemporane*. Constanța: Ex Ponto, 2001, p. 91.