



GREEK DEMOCRACY
UNIVERSITY OF THE PELOPONNESE

ANTI-PLAGIARISM REGULATION

Tripolis, June 2021

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1. Definition

According to Babiniotis' Dictionary of Modern Greek Language, plagiarism is the "appropriation of foreign intellectual property" (Babiniotis, 1998) and comes from the latin word *plagiarius* which means abductor (Merriam-Webster Unabridged, 2019). In the academic context and research the term "plagiarism" means incorporating in an intellectual work ideas, extracts or/and individual phrases of the work of a third person, without a reference to the relevant source from which it comes from.

2. Legislation

The legislation in Greece does not specify the case of plagiarism but includes it in the general framework regarding the protection of intellectual property. More specifically, the framework which governs intellectual property is included in the law 2121/1993 (A'25) regarding Intellectual Property, copyright and cultural issues. Types of intellectual works according to the above- mentioned legislation are considered:

- The written (printed, electronic or oral) texts.
- The musical compositions (with text or without).
- The theatrical plays (with music or without).
- The choreographies, the pantomimes.
- The audiovisual works.
- The works of fine art (drawings, paintings and sculptures, engravings, lithographs, architectural works, photographs, works of applied arts, illustrations, maps, 3D works referring to geography, topography, architecture, or science).
- The translations, the covers, the adaptations, and other conversions of works or expressions of popular traditions.
- The encyclopaedias, the anthologies, and the databases, provided that the selection or the arrangement of their content is original, computer programs and their preparatory design material.

In articles 20 and 21 of law 2121/1993 the way extracts from works of third parties are used is defined (e.g. writing, teaching et al) while the criminal sanctions which are provided for the violators of the provisions of the specific law are mentioned in article 66.

Plagiarism is not acceptable in the academic context and is a serious offense for the members of the academic community. More specifically, the article 23 of the General Internal Operating Regulation of Higher Education Institutions (H.E.I.) (FEK 220/A/3.11.2008), mentions that *“the violation of the existing provisions of the legislation for the H.E.I., the violation of the decisions of the members of the institution and the violation of the rules of conduct which the members of the academic community must follow, so that its democratic operation is not disturbed and the prestige of the H.E.I and its members is not affected, are offenses for the members of Teaching Research Staff or Research Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff, Special Technical Laboratory Staff and the rest of the auxiliary and emergency teaching-educational staff of the H.E.I as well as the undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral students. More specifically, disciplinary offenses are: a) The conscious concealment of the direct or indirect contribution of other persons to the subject of their scientific research and teaching”*. Furthermore, section (b), of paragraph 2, of article of law 4777/17.2.2021 (A' 25) mentions *“plagiarism or the conscious concealment of the direct or indirect contribution of other persons to the subject of scientific study or research as disciplinary offense for the students”*.

3. Forms of Plagiarism

Plagiarism can be voluntary or involuntary, partial (copying part of a text without a clear reference to its origin) or total (copying of the entire source).

Indicative forms of plagiarism are listed below:

- Word for word copying of part or even the complete intellectual work and its presentation as work of the writer.
- Copying of the original text or part of it without using quotation marks or without the appropriate bibliographic reference.
- The word for word translation and appropriation of foreign language texts/paragraphs/phrases in the Greek language.
- Copying the illustrations, designs, pictures or other visual material without the appropriate bibliographic reference.
- Self-plagiarism, that is recycling-recomposition of old work of the writer and their presentation as a new independent work.

- The appropriation of a directorial or documentary approach to a third-party work and its presentation as a personal creation.
- The incorrect citation of sources.

4. Ways of Avoiding Plagiarism

Academic research and writing require the clear statement of views, findings or ideas from the work of other scientists, to which citations must always be made accurately, according to the applicable rules. It is noted that it is personal responsibility of the student/researcher to follow the rules of academic ethics, in order to avoid practises that lead to plagiarism.

Some basic principles for avoiding plagiarism are the following:

- Avoiding copying and pasting original text or part of it.
- Bibliography detection and detailed recording of bibliographic data.
- Recognition of the originality of the idea.
- Quoting extracts using quotation marks and reference to the source.
- Paraphrase of the text with reference and to the source.
- Use of quotation marks with an original text and reference to the source.
- Analysis and assessment of the sources (mainly from the internet).
- Translation of foreign language text with reference to the source.
- Guidance from the supervisor.
- Writing the bibliography in the end of the text.

It should be noted that personal views/ideas/theories as well as events that are “common knowledge” do not need a reference to a source.

5. Plagiarism Detection Tools

The University of the Peloponnese with the no 1/22.06.2018 decision of the 129th Senate Meeting secured access to the software for plagiarism detection Turnitin (www.turnitin.com) implementing the no 2/06.02.2017 Decision of the 83rd Session of Rectors on assignment to the Hellenic Academic Libraries Association (HALA) for the process of procuring plagiarism detection software for the Higher Education Institutions.

The plagiarism detection software “Turnitin” is an electronic service for the prevention and detection of plagiarism and the check of documents with non-authentic content. The results can be used for the detection of similarities with existing sources or in formative evaluation in order to help users to learn how to avoid plagiarism and to improve their texts.

The access to the service “Turnitin” is provided online, with the use of passwords to the members of Teaching Research Staff of all levels and the rest of the members of the educational staff of the Departments of the University of the Peloponnese. It is noted that the references of the software Turnitin for possible plagiarism, have only an indicative character and their assessment lies at the responsible instructor and the relevant committees (e.g. seven- member committee for the examination of a doctorate thesis).

The submission of bachelor’s thesis/ dissertations/postgraduate/doctorate thesis at the University of the Peloponnese must be necessarily accompanied by the attached text similarity report from the plagiarism detection software which will be submitted by the student at the Student Registry, with the responsibility of the supervisor in order to avoid the wrong use of sources and to prevent phenomena of plagiarism.

6. Code of Conduct and Good Practise of the University of the Peloponnese

The University of Peloponnese with the no 4/19-07-2018 Decision of the 132th Senate Meeting has approved and follows the Code of Conduct and Good Practise for academic, administrative and research issues. More specifically, the Code of Conduct and Good Practise is a text of principles which aims at the sensitization of the members of the academic community, so that they all act according to the principles of academic ethics and scientific thought and research and the international standards. Regarding plagiarism, the Code mentions that the members of the academic community are prohibited to use the ideas, views, and the words of third parties without the clear and explicit recognition of their source (citation of reference). Any lack of recognition, even involuntary, is considered plagiariarism and violates the rules of ethics.

The Code of Conduct and Good Practise is not a manual of criminal sanctions, but its violation can activate sanctioning procedures according to the current legislation and the current regulations of the University of the Peloponnese.

7. Implications/Academic Consequences

Plagiarism is an ethical and disciplinary offense and must be avoided. If while writing any written assignment, textual similarity is noticed, either by the plagiarism detection software "Turnitin" or/and by the instructor, in percentage smaller than 20%, this is considered acceptable, on the condition of the recognition of the sources of the similar text, the omission of which is in any case, plagiarism. The disciplinary consequences and sanctions that are imposed for higher percentages of plagiarism, according to the nature and the gravity of the offense, include the following:

- In case the percentage of text similarity is from 20% to 30% in the total of the "clean text"¹ the assignment is returned to the student for the correction of the parts which show textual similarity and resubmission.
- In case the percentage of the text similarity is from 30% to 35% in the total of the "clean" text the assignment is conducted from the beginning with a different topic.
- In cases of extensive text similarity in a percentage higher than 35% in the total of the "clean" text, the assignment is conducted from the beginning with a different topic and the deduction of one point from the final grade.
- In the case of repetitive phenomena of extensive text similarity or plagiarism in assignments, the student is referred to the Ethics Committee of the University according to what is defined in the Code of Conduct and Good Practise of the University of the Peloponnese.
- In case extensive similarity or plagiarism in the assignment of a graduate, Doctor or Postdoctoral Fellow is found a posteriori, the relevant collective body must examine the case and has the capacity to recall the title of studies according to what is defined in the current legislation.

¹ "Clean" text means the text from which the contents, the cover of the assignment, the abstract, the bibliography, the quotes and the appendices have been removed.

- Plagiarism and the appropriation of foreign achievements is a violation of the ethics rules and must be referred to the relevant disciplinary bodies for the prescribed actions.

It is particularly emphasized that the offenses of plagiarism and appropriation of foreign achievements are not equivalent to an extensive percentage of text similarity. The offense of plagiarism may concern any of its forms mentioned in chapter 3 “Forms of Plagiarism”, while the appropriation of foreign achievements is judged after the essential examination of the content of the assignment, according to the rules of the relevant science.

More information

- Merriam-Webster Unabridged, (n.d.) Available at the website:
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiary>
(Recovered on 14/03/2019)
- Plagiarism.org (n.d.). Available at the website:
<https://www.plagiarism.org/> (Recovered on 10/01/2019)
- Library-Information Centre A.U.TH. (2018) Available at the website:
lib.auth.gr/el/πνευματικά-δικαιώματα-λογοκλοπή-λογοκλοπή (Recovered on 20/3/2019)
- Μπαμπινιώτης Γ., (1998), Λεξικό της νέας ελληνικής γλώσσας Αθήνα, Κέντρο Λεξικολογίας
- P.D.160 Standard General Internal Operating Regulations of H.E.I. (FEK220/A/3.11.2008)

**DECISION OF THE SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF THE PELOPONNESE**

Decision 1 / 22.06.2018 Meeting 129th

Topic: Submission of dissertations of the Programs of Postgraduate Studies at the Institutional Repository with the text similarity report from “Turnitin” attached.

Decides

The submission of dissertations of the Programs of Postgraduate Studies at the Institutional Repository of the University of the Peloponnese, with the text similarity report from the plagiarism detection software “Turnitin” attached.
