



EMSEA 2017 Conference

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Abstracts booklet

The European Marine Science Educators Association (EMSEA) is an informal non-profit organisation which provides a platform for ocean education and promoting ocean literacy within Europe. The rationale of **EMSEA** is educational and scientific.

GOALS

The particular goals and activities of EMSEA are the following:

- Stimulate dialogue between European and international marine educators and scientists;
- Provide training and teaching materials to support marine educators;
- Raise educators awareness of ocean issues and the need for a sustainable future for our coasts, seas and oceans.

ACTIVITIES

- to organise workshops and conferences for marine educators;
- to build a web portal with links to providers of marine educational and research-based materials;
- to provide a forum for members feedback and communication.

Further information about EMSEA can be gleaned through www.emsea.eu

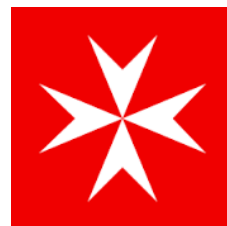


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Dr. Athanasios Mogias¹, Theodora Boubonari & Theodoros Kevrekidis
amogias@eled.duth.gr

¹Assistant Professor - Democritus University of Thrace, Department of Education – Primary Level,
Division of Science & Mathematics, Laboratory of Environmental Research & Education, Nea Chili,
Alexandroupolis, GR-68100, Greece. Tel. +30 25510 30011, Fax. +30 25510 30033

Elements of ocean sciences issues in Greek High school textbooks: Preliminary results

While curricula constitute the official expression of the educational policy of a country, school textbooks are the tools with which this policy is put into effect. Although there are multiple resources available to teachers and students especially nowadays, school textbooks are still of significant importance, because they both keep relying primarily on them. Since the instruction in Greek educational system is basically textbook-led, the production of quality manuals appears to be imperative. The present study attempts to portray whether the essential principles of the OL framework are included in Greek high school education and in what extent. The analyzed material consists of the reading textbooks developed for teaching natural sciences in grades 7-12 (Biology, Geography, Chemistry, Physics, Technology and Natural Resources Management). Content analysis was implemented to assess the presence of relevant information by applying a-priori coding as the requisite categories were the seven OL principles. Analysis revealed that elements of ocean sciences issues cover only 7.2% of the total pages and 3.4% of the total images. All seven principles are cited with the most frequently presented being the first and sixth, whereas the second and seventh the less observed ones. Most of them are traced in grades 7-9, mainly in Geography, while it is rather interesting that Natural Resources Management, the only optional course, presented the most extended references. Therefore, the information included in Greek high school textbooks, regarding elements of ocean sciences issues is extremely limited, fragmented and excursive in most of the cases with many inconsistencies within the same textbooks and among grades. In conclusion, the present study could contribute to a focused future revision of science textbooks towards a more ocean sciences friendly content by the Greek Ministry of Education along with a careful introduction of such topics in the pre-service high school teachers' preparation programs.