

Information Literacy (IL) Approach in Turkey

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Outline

- Information Literacy (IL)
 - Definition and development
- Information Literacy (IL) in Turkey
- Government Policies
 - TÜSIAD Report
 - VIII. Five-Year Development Plan
 - The Council of Higher Education
 - Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education
- Libraries
 - School Libraries
 - Public Libraries
 - University Libraries
- Conclusion
- Suggestions

Information Literacy (IL)

Zurkowski's definition:

“People trained in the application of information resources to their work can be called information literates. They have learned techniques and skills for utilizing the wide range of information tools as well as primary sources in molding information-solutions to their problems.”

Information Literacy (IL)

- IL concept was emerged by Paul Zurkowski in 1974.
- Usage of IL concept gradually became widespread.
- The USA, New Zeland, Australia, Canada and England.
- **In Turkey**, this concept took part in the literature relatively later than the world.

Information Literacy (IL)

In Turkey

- Government policies
- Libraries



Government Policies

BOBCATSSS 2013, 23-25 January 2013, Ankara, Turkey

TÜSİAD Report

- Terms of growing competent people.
- Lifelong learning emphasis.

VIII. Five-Year Development Plan



Information Technology and Policies: Special Expertise Commission Report.

The Council of Higher Education and Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education

- Developing and implementing policies devoted to IL.
- Have not any exact policy about IL yet.

Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education

- Responsibility for gaining core IL abilities to the primary, secondary and high school students.
- Adding IL courses to the curricula.
- Information Retrieval and Searching Techniques.

The Council of Higher Education

- Critical role, especially for creating awareness, teacher education, training other university students about IL.
- Several universities have some training modules only for teacher education about IL.



Libraries

School Libraries

- Ted College
- Bilkent Private High School
- ILIPG (Innovative Library Initiatives Promotion Group)

Public Libraries

- No any item about IL in Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism “Public and Children Libraries Regulations” (Ersoy and Yılmaz, 2009, p. 812).
- Insufficient number of librarians.

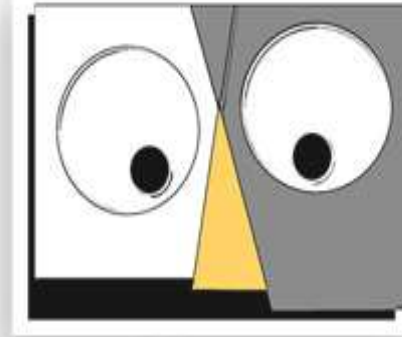
University Libraries

- Bilkent University Library
- Koç University Suna Kıraç Library
- Hacettepe University Library



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Conclusion

The state of IL in Turkey;

- The IL practises are quite a few and insufficient.
- There is still not any exact policy about IL.
- No particular policy by The Council of Higher Education and The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey.
- The lack of libraries.
- Not any particular IL application in public libraries .
- Not any exact IL training program or module in most of the university libraries.
- The lack of cooperation.

Suggestions

- Need of education in an early age.
- IL training must be the part of the core education.
- Certain training programs and activities.
- The role of public library is important.
- IL courses for teachers.
- University libraries should have IL training modules.
- Libraries should be provided for all schools activities through cooperation.
- Cooperation between public and private institutions.
- Improving IL projects to create awareness and enhance the IL levels of individuals.

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