

Data Protection and Access to Digital Archives

Maria Bottis, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece

Digital Archives may contain legally regulated data. This is especially true, when the archives refer to information on living persons in the form of letters e.t.c. The data protection law L. 2472/1997 in Greece (enforced after the European Directive on the protection of personal data) contains specific provisions on whom and under what conditions may access personal data in general, so also personal data contained in digital archives. Users' rights of access to the archives determine to a great extent the "power" and the "life" of the archive.

Users also have certain expectations, in relation to their meaningful access to the digital archives. The presentation will describe the main legal provisions of the L. 2472/1997 and the possible legal way of resolving conflicts related to users' access to the archives.