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Terminology Research in Greece: Overview, Challenges, Perspectives

1. Terminology and the Greek language¹

The study of concepts, their relationships, and their linguistic representations – terms and appellations – has its roots in the works of ancient Greek philosophers Plato and Aristotle. To understand the interplay between the Greek language and terminology in the modern era, it is essential to consider key historical milestones in the language's evolution.

The symbolic beginning of Modern Greek is often linked to the fall of the Byzantine Empire in 1453. However, this date does not mark a clear linguistic boundary, as many features of the modern language emerged centuries earlier, starting around the 4th century CE. Greece formally gained recognition as an independent state with the Treaty of 1832, becoming the first among the Ottoman Empire's subject peoples to achieve full independence. During this period, language played a pivotal role in shaping Greek national identity, particularly in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

This national identity was closely tied to the creation of

¹ I acknowledge that some sections of this paper are based on the chapter "Terminology in Greece: Bodies, Works and Activities" (Valeontis et al., forthcoming). I would like to thank Kostas Valeontis, Panagiotis G. Krimpas, Katerina Toraki, Marianna Katsoyannou, George Tsiamas, Afroditi Giovani and Anna Anastassiadis-Symeonidis, who are my co-authors of the forthcoming chapter, for their contribution and collaboration in this work.

katharevousa, a “purist” variety of Modern Greek developed in the 19th century. *Katharevousa* aimed to “purify” the language by eliminating foreign influences and systematising its morphology, drawing extensively on ancient Greek roots and classical inflections. Despite its largely artificial nature and limited mastery among speakers (Ferguson, 1959), *katharevousa* became the official written language of Greece. It was used extensively in government and judiciary documents, education, public administration, newspapers, and technical publications until 1976.

For nearly 150 years, *katharevousa* coexisted with *dimotiki*, the vernacular variety of Modern Greek. In January 1976, the Greek government declared *dimotiki* the official state language, replacing *katharevousa* in governmental, legal, and educational contexts, as well as in the media. Nevertheless, *katharevousa* persisted in certain legal and technical domains, where a substantial body of established literature already existed. Over time, elements of *katharevousa* were integrated into *dimotiki*, culminating in the formation of Standard Modern Greek, or *Koini Neoelliniki*.

1.1 Greek as a source of terms and term elements

Greek has historically served as a cultural and linguistic foundation for European and European-influenced language communities (Krimpas, 2016). Alongside Latin, it has been a significant and enduring source of neoclassical terms and term elements used across most European and other languages to denote scientific concepts (Nybakken, 1959, Kanarakis, 2017). In medicine, for instance, Banay (1948, p. 1–2) estimates that “about three-fourths of our medical terminology is of Greek origin” and identifies several reasons for the prominence of Greek-based terminology among medical scientists:

- a) Greeks were pioneers in describing diseases based on observation;
- b) the Greek language is particularly well-suited for forming compounds by analogy to older terms;
- c) Greek classical roots form a kind of international linguistic framework, facilitating understanding among experts of diverse ethnic backgrounds.

Greek-based words, combining forms, and scientific affixes are predominantly found in European languages (Anastassiadis-Symeonidis, 2022). As such, they are often categorised as ‘europeanisms’ (Kirkness, 1984). However, many of these terms have also entered languages outside Europe, including Japanese, Malay, and Swahili, which have been influenced by one or more European languages. In such cases, they can be considered part of the broader concept of ‘internationalisms’ (Wexler, 1969).

1.2 The Greek language question and its impact on terminology

Throughout much of the 20th century, the use of language in Greek scientific discourse was inextricably linked to the ideological conflict arising from diglossia, the coexistence of two varieties of Greek – *katharevousa* and *dimotiki* – which were used in parallel until 1976. The so-called “Greek language question” fuelled significant social, political, and ideological disputes, leading to divisions among intellectuals. This linguistic divide also hindered the development of scientific terminology, complicating both the use and understanding of terms in comparison to other languages. As Toraki (2011) notes, there is a strong correlation between the linguistic practices of professionals and users of technical terminology and the level of scientific and technological advancement in Greece.

Despite these challenges, notable efforts were made to promote the use of *dimotiki* in scientific texts. Key initiatives included the founding of the “Brotherhood for the National Language” in Constantinople in the 1900s by physician Fotis Fotiadis, the decision by academics in the 1940s to teach and author medical textbooks in *dimotiki*, and the publication of articles addressing language and medical terminology in the journal *Akadimaiki Iatriki*, which further fuelled the debate over the Greek language question.

A landmark event in 1976, the same year *dimotiki* was declared the official state language, was the publication of a two-volume English-Greek Dictionary of pure and applied mathematics by Memas Kolaitis, a translator and lexicographer. This work was groundbreaking due to its explicit engagement with linguistic challenges. In the extensive preface,

Kolaitis (1976, p. ix–ci) described his approach to finding suitable Greek equivalents for concepts originally expressed in English. He explored various strategies, including adopting existing terms, variant forms of terms in use or ancient words with new meanings, or coining new terms. His decisions regarding the choice between *katharevousa* and *dimotiki* prioritised accessibility, favouring forms that were more easily assimilated by speakers of both varieties. Kolaitis demonstrated a nuanced understanding of terminological principles such as description versus prescription, monosemy versus polysemy, and the distinctions between simple and learned vernacular. Among his observations on the state of Greek terminology, he noted:

- a) the lack of systematic recording of vernacular terms, despite many of them having exact equivalents in English;
- b) the fact that vernacular terms aligned more closely with English equivalents than purist terms, which were often calqued from French multiword terms;
- c) the gap between oral and written language;
- d) the absence of new scientific and technical terms in the vocabulary of average speakers;
- e) the lack of correlation between new terms and existing ones; and
- f) the absence of clear definitions or rigorous terminological scrutiny.

In essence, Kolaitis highlighted a significant gap in systematic terminological work in Greece. His reflections extended to issues of translation from French, German, and English into Greek, emphasising the importance of context in term selection and proposing criteria for the formation of new terms. These considerations position his work among the earliest examples of theoretical terminography, transcending mere empirical analysis of term usage (see further in Valeontis et al., forthcoming).

1.3 Theoretical approaches to secondary term formation in Greek

In recent years, with English established as the dominant language in scientific and technological development, Modern Greek terminology has become closely tied to translation and relies primarily on secondary

term formation. In this context, Valeontis (1997) made a significant contribution to the advancement of terminology theory and practice at the interlingual level by introducing the “analogue rule” in secondary term formation. This rule is based on the principle that the processes employed during primary term formation in a source language can serve as valuable guidance for the creation of terms at a secondary level.

The analogue rule posits that the processes used to designate a concept in the target language should mirror those employed in the source language, as these are reflected in the structure of the primary term. By systematically integrating these processes into a unified naming mechanism within the target language, the analogue rule provides a framework for consistent and methodical term formation. As Valeontis (2005) explains, “when forming a term in a target language to name a new concept that has been primarily named in the source language, the namer’s first choice should be to apply a term-formation mechanism analogous to the term-formation mechanism used for the source language term.” Table 1 illustrates the correspondence of term-formation mechanisms analyzed in accordance with the analogue rule. This systematic approach not only enhances the precision and consistency of secondary term formation but also reinforces the connection between source and target language terminologies.

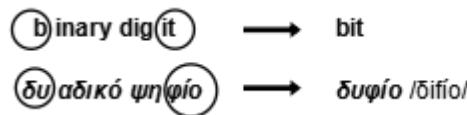
Table 1 – Correspondence of term-formation mechanism data examined according to the Analogue Rule (Valeontis, 2005, p. 6)

No.	In source language	In target language
1	<p>A <i>monolectic new form</i> X has been created</p> <p>a. monolectic simple term X (ST)</p> <p>b. monolectic complex term X (dD ή Dd), where d is the <i>determining component</i> and D the</p>	<p>Creation of a <i>monolectic</i> term Y (neologism), simple or complex correspondingly, is examined.</p> <p>In case of a complex term the examination focuses on the correspondence of its immediate components (i.e. the <i>Determined component</i> of X to the <i>Determined component</i> of Y, and the <i>determining component</i> of X to the <i>determining</i></p>

	<i>determined component of the term)</i>	<i>component of Y: D_X↔D_Y and d_X↔d_Y)</i>
2	A <i>polylectic new form</i> X has been created (polylectic complex term)	Creation of a <i>polylectic</i> term Y is examined, with immediate components of Y (D _Y , d _Y) corresponding to those of X (D _X , d _X)
3	The term X has been obtained by <i>conversion</i>	Analogous <i>conversion</i> to obtain the equivalent term Y is examined
4	There has been <i>terminologisation</i> of the general language term X	Analogous <i>terminologisation</i> of the equivalent or other proper general language term Y is examined.
5	There has been <i>transdisciplinary borrowing</i> of the term X from the subject field SF	The examination is whether <i>transdisciplinary borrowing</i> of the equivalent term Y from the same subject field SF may be adopted
6	The term X is an <i>abbreviated form</i> of the full form x	Creation of an <i>abbreviated form</i> Y of the equivalent full form y is examined
7	<i>Synecdochical extension</i> has been applied to the term X	Application of the analogous <i>synecdochical extension</i> to the equivalent term Y is examined

Example:

In 〈Information Technology〉 and 〈Telecommunications〉 the English term **bit** was formed in the source language as a new form (a monolectic simple term) by *abbreviating* (hereupon *blending*) the full form **binary digit** without changing the concept designated by the full form: «*a digit of the binary numbering system*». The candidate equivalent Greek term was the blend **δυφίο** /δifio/, which is produced by *blending* the equivalent full Greek term **διαδικό ψηφίο** /diadikó psifio/ in exactly the same manner as for **bit**.



The analogue rule complements the principles of term formation recommended by international and national standards on terminology, such as the Greek Standard ELOT 402, which is based on ISO 704. Importantly, the analogue rule is presented as a recommendation rather than a mandatory requirement for neoterms, recognising that its application cannot universally address all cases of secondary term formation.

Floros (2021), in a critical analysis and conceptual expansion of the analogue rule, proposed extending its application beyond individual neoterms to encompass related terms within the same concept system of the target language. This approach facilitates the integration of neoterms into their conceptual and linguistic ecosystems, offering theoretical and practical benefits. For example, Floros illustrates his proposition with the neoterms *αγκωναψία* (elbow bump) and *γρονθαψία* (fist bump), which were coined during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Another valuable contribution to terminology theory comes from Anastasiadis-Symeonidis, who has explored specific morphological aspects of the Greek language as part of a proposed terminological grammar. Her latest research, grounded in Corbin's theoretical framework (Corbin, 1987, and forthcoming), focuses on the concept of scientific suffixes (Anastasiadis-Symeonidis, 2022). Scientific terminological suffixes can be specific to certain language registers or domains but follow unique rules when used in terminological, non-colloquial contexts. In Modern Greek, many scientific suffixes have been borrowed from Western European languages such as English, French, and German (Anastasiadis-Symeonidis, 1997), which themselves had re-analysed Ancient Greek suffixed terms. For instance, the deverbal suffix *-sis*, originally used in Ancient Greek to form terms like *psōriāsis* ('the state of having *psōr(a)*, i.e., scabies,' derived from the verb *psōriō*), was re-analysed in major Western languages as *-iasis* (e.g., *chrysiasis*) to create denominational medical terms for non-inflammatory conditions. Modern

Greek later borrowed *-iasis* to coin new terms, such as *echinokokkiasi* ('echinococcosis') (Tsiakmakis 2017). In these cases, inherited Modern Greek suffixes facilitated the integration of Ancient Greek-derived suffixes that had been borrowed via Western languages. This interplay demonstrates how morphological continuity supports the adaptation of scientific terminology, highlighting the dynamic evolution of Greek within global terminological systems.

2 Terminology institutionalisation and standardisation

2.1 From domain-specific vocabularies to national standardisation

The development and establishment of Modern Greek terminology across various domains were initially driven by individual efforts, often by multilingual engineers and scientists who contributed through their translations, original writings, and the creation of dictionaries. However, each field presents unique characteristics and challenges in terminology development.

In the field of medical terminology, the first dictionaries were compiled as early as the 18th century by medical doctors who were often multilingual and knowledgeable in other disciplines such as mathematics and philosophy (Karamperopoulos, 2008, Toraki, 2019). A particularity of this field lies in its heavy reliance on imported concepts. While many terms in European languages include formative elements of Classical Greek origin, these terms are typically treated as back-loanwords in Greek etymological dictionaries, even though they should be classified as internationalisms (Krimpas et al., 2023, pp. 40–47).

For chemistry terminology, the first Modern Greek nomenclature of chemical compounds was published by Xavier Landerer in 1842. Although notable resources exist, such as the *English-Greek Dictionary of Chemical Terms* by Efstatithiou (1998)¹ including over 10,000 entries covering more than 20,000 concepts, Modern Greek chemical terminology remains unsystematised. It has yet to achieve full harmonisation with the internationally recognised nomenclature and terminology

¹ Also available online: <http://webapps.chem.uoa.gr/e-dictionary/>

standards of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

Last but not least, in the domain of technical terminology, the 20th century saw a growing interest in terminological standardisation among engineers and other technically educated professionals, mirroring trends in the rest of Europe (Tampakakis, 2015). This interest likely stemmed from the recognition of the importance of terminological harmonisation for effective communication (Toraki, 2007). An editorial titled “We Need a Greek Vocabulary of Technical Terms,” published in the technical magazine *Erga* in 1927, highlighted this need. Using examples from the textile industry, the article called for a systematic approach to terminology work, emphasising the necessity of gathering existing terms, creating original Greek terminology, and avoiding reliance on direct calques of foreign terms.

2.2 National organisations and working groups

2.2.1 Technical Chamber of Greece

The Technical Chamber of Greece (Techniko Epimelitirio Elladas – TEE), established in 1923, has shown a longstanding commitment to technical terminology. Its initiatives span the creation and documentation of terms, the publication of specialised dictionaries, and the standardisation and promotion of terminology work.

In 1928, TEE formed a committee to compile a quadrilingual technical glossary, with thematic sections progressively published in the journal *Technika Chronika*. Simultaneously, TEE supported the independent publication of multilingual dictionaries across various scientific and technical disciplines. Notable works include the quadrilingual (Greek, English, French, German) technical dictionary by Chalkiopoulos (1951), which significantly advanced Modern Greek engineering terminology, and the aforementioned English-Greek dictionary of pure and applied mathematics by Kolaitis (1976). These efforts contributed not only to the enrichment of Modern Greek terminology but also to its alignment with international scientific and technical vocabularies.

TEE's role in standardisation is equally noteworthy, particularly in the context of terminological research related to Eurocodes, standards, and other normative technical texts. TEE was the first Greek organisation to address such issues systematically. In 1933, it founded the Hellenic Standardisation Committee (Elliniki Epistimoniki Epitropi Protypopoiiiseos – ENO), which issued the *ENO Bulletin de Normalisation*. Despite a hiatus during World War II, ENO operated as Greece's national standardisation body for over three decades, until the establishment of the Hellenic Organisation for Standardisation.

2.2.2 Hellenic Organisation for Standardisation

The Hellenic Organisation for Standardisation (Ellinikos Organismos Typopoiiisis – ELOT) was established in 1976, coinciding with the institutionalisation of *dimotiki* as the official state language of Greece. Since standardisation requires the development of a common specialised language and universally accepted terminology across all domains, ELOT has established several Technical Committees, each dedicated to the specialised language and terminology of a specific subject field.

First of all, the Technical Committee ELOT/TC 21 Terminology – Language Resources (the mirror committee of ISO/TC 37 Language and Terminology) was formed in 1978 under the initial name Technical Terminology, following an initiative by the Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE) (Valeontis, 1988, Katsoyannou and Toraki, 2010, Pantazara, 2021). This committee plays a pivotal role in international standardisation on language and terminology, adapting relevant international standards into Greek Standards (ELOT Standards) and collaborating with academics, researchers, and professionals in the field. ELOT/TC 21 has published 15 Greek Terminology Standards (some of which have been withdrawn or are under revision) and continues to develop new ones. Many of the terms are included in the freely accessible TermTerm database, a multilingual terminological resource dedicated to terminology in the field of terminology.¹ In addition to its standardisation activities, ELOT/TC 21 actively promotes terminology and standardisation in Greece by

¹ Available at: <https://termterm.kaleidoscope.online/terminology/search>

organising events and training seminars. A recent example is the Translating Europe Workshop on “Standardisation and Language Services”, co-organised in June 2023 with the European Commission and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.¹

Another active standardisation committee is the Technical Committee ELOT/TC 22 Information and Documentation (the mirror committee of ISO/TC 46). Its work focuses on the development of Greek terminology for information science, a field that relies heavily on precise terminology to create tools such as thesauri and other controlled vocabularies for organising and managing information resources. The Greek terms and definitions from the standards developed by ELOT/TC 22 are compiled into a terminology database, which includes equivalent terms in English and French.²

Additional Working Groups under ELOT also contribute significantly to terminology research and standardisation in Greece, adopting and applying ISO principles in their respective fields. Notable groups include the Permanent Group for Telecommunication Terminology (MOTO), the ELOT/TC 48/WG1 Information Technology Terminology, and the ELOT/TC 2/WG5 Sound Insulation. These groups have played an important role in advancing terminology research, promoting standardisation, and ensuring consistency within their specialised domains.

2.2.3 Hellenic Society for Terminology

The Hellenic Society for Terminology (ELETO) is the only Greek association exclusively dedicated to terminology. Established in 1992, ELETO was the result of collaboration among several organisations, including ELOT/TC 21, ELOT/TC 48/WG1, ELOT/TC 2/WG5, MOTO, the Terminology Group of the Panhellenic Association of Mechanical-Electrical Engineers, the National Centre for Public Administration, and the Centre of Greek Medical Information, Terminology and

¹ The video recording of the event with interpretation into English is available at: <http://translating-europe.frl.uoa.gr/en/index.html>

² This terminology is now available through a significant online terminological dictionary (Kapidakis et al., 2024). Available at: <https://liblex.gr/>.

Documentation (IATROTEK), with additional support from individuals (Valeontis and Filopoulos, 2001).

Today, ELETO serves as the primary reference point and coordinator for terminology research and development in Greece, with the following mission and objectives:

- Publication: To prepare, compile, publish, and circulate books, dictionaries, glossaries, and related materials on language and terminology, particularly focusing on Greek language and terminology.
- Information and Documentation: To provide continuous and comprehensive updates on Greek terminology issues.
- Support: To encourage and assist institutions in developing Greek terminology across various domains.
- Consultation: To offer specialised advisory services to government agencies and other stakeholders on terminology matters.

Membership and Collaborations: ELETO currently has 281 individual members and nine collective members representing diverse domains, including telecommunications, information technology, acoustics, medicine, public administration, socio-economic terminology, and statistics. The society fosters both national and international cooperation with similar organisations, such as universities, public authorities, and professional associations. Internationally, ELETO collaborates with prominent organisations like the International Information Centre for Terminology (Infoterm), the European Association for Terminology (EAFT), the International Network for Terminology (TermNet), and the Directorate-General for Translation of the European Commission, particularly through its role in the Hellenic Network for Terminology (EDO), which operated from 2016 to 2023. At the national level, ELETO actively works with Greek universities by offering lectures and participating in postgraduate programs. It also collaborates with organisations such as ELOT, the Hellenic Society for Translation Studies, and the Panhellenic Association of Translators.

Events and Conferences: ELETO regularly organises and co-organises events to promote terminology. Following the 1st Conference on Terminology Standardisation in 1992, ELETO has held the

International Conference “Hellenic Language and Terminology” biennially since 1997. These conferences, primarily hosted in Athens (with one held in Nicosia and two online), serve as key forums for advancing Greek terminology. Other notable events include: a) the 2013 symposium on “National Languages and Terminology in Higher Education, Research, and Technology” (co-organised with EAFT and the Universities of Athens and Cyprus); b) the 2018 Conference on Terminology (co-organised with EDO and ELOT/TC 21); c) participation in TermNet’s Terminology Summer School, held in Athens in 2022.

Open Access and Terminology Resources: ELETO is a strong advocate for open access to terminological resources and related publications. Its website functions as a comprehensive terminology portal, providing free online access to over 15 termbases, 30 glossaries, and subject-specific dictionaries. Additionally, the website¹ hosts extensive documentation, including research papers presented at the International Conference “Hellenic Language and Terminology”, and all issues of the bimonthly newsletter *Orogramma*, published since 1993 and distributed via email to more than 2,000 recipients.

2.2.4 Research institutions

The landscape of national organisations involved in terminology development in Greece is further enriched by the contributions of two significant research institutions: the Research Centre for Scientific Terms and Neologisms (KEEON) and the Institute of Language and Speech Processing (ILSP).

Established in 1966, KEEON is one of the 14 research centers under the Academy of Athens. Its primary mission is to collect and study Modern Greek neologisms and propose Greek equivalents for emerging scientific terminology. Since 1986, KEEON has published 15 issues of the *Bulletin of Scientific Terminology and Neologisms*, which covers terms from diverse domains such as astronautics, robotics, economics, gerontology, videography, transport, and energy technology.

¹ ELETO website: <https://eleto.gr/>

As regards ILSP, it was founded in 1991 by a team involved in the EUROTRA machine translation project. Today, it stands as one of Greece's leading R&D organisations in the fields of language, knowledge, and content technologies. The ILSP's multidisciplinary team includes experts from computational linguistics, machine learning, signal processing, computer science, statistics, psycholinguistics, cognitive sciences, humanities, and physics. The ILSP's activities extend to the development of terminology and language resources for Greek, with projects including specialised lexica and corpora for various domains, term extraction tools, thesauri, and application ontologies. These resources contribute significantly to the advancement of Greek terminology and its integration into both national and international linguistic frameworks.

2.3 Academia and education

Greek research on terminology is shaped by a diverse range of theoretical frameworks. National terminology organisations, particularly ELETO and ELOT/TC 21, base their standardisation efforts on Wüster's General Terminology Theory. In contrast, academic research often adopts modern approaches such as the Communicative Theory of Terminology or Textual Terminology, which leverage corpora to explore topics including terminology didactics, IT research, language applications, printed and electronic lexicography, and translation (e.g., Krimpas et al., 2023). Research in theoretical and applied terminology is well-documented in the "Hellenic Language and Terminology" conference proceedings, which include 439 papers presented by Greek and international scholars across 14 conferences. The past decade has also seen a growing body of related academic outputs, including articles, handbooks, monographs, and doctoral theses.

Regarding education on terminology, a review of terminology-related training programs in Greece highlights a range of offerings in both academic and non-academic settings (Pantazara, 2019). These include: 57 university graduate and postgraduate courses, 55 language and terminology courses offered by higher education language centers, and 13 lifelong learning courses and seminars.

In Greek universities, terminology is typically taught as part of courses aimed at developing either language skills for specialised domains or translation skills in specific language combinations. Terminology theory is rarely offered as an independent module. Courses focusing on terminological methodologies – irrespective of language or subject field – are more commonly included in postgraduate translation programs.

As noted by Gostkowska and Pantazara (2021), university curricula tend to prioritise translation-oriented terminology rather than theory-oriented terminology. This latter category, as defined by Thelen (2015), involves work on the relationship between terms and concepts, concept formation, term formation, and standardisation. Pedagogically, the focus in Greek higher education is largely descriptive, application-oriented, or project-based.

In line with project-based learning, postgraduate students from translation and language departments of universities in Athens, Thessaloniki, and Corfu have participated in terminology projects in collaboration with EU bodies. A notable initiative is the “Terminology without Borders” program, launched by Rodolfo Maslias, the Greek founder and former head of the Terminology Coordination Unit at the DG for Translation of the European Parliament (2008–2022).¹

As to non-academic training, various seminars and short-term courses on specific languages, terminology, and translation are offered by language centers, publishing houses, and private or public institutions (for instance: EU institutions, terminology and translation, French Legal Terminology, Medical French, Medical English, Electronic Lexicography and Terminology, Terminology and Translation, and so on). These programs vary in content, target audience, and duration.

In addition to these structured programs, ad hoc events of specific interest are frequently organised, such as a Training Seminar for ELOT/TC 22 members on terminology work and standardisation (ELET0, June 4, 2018), a Working Meeting on “Quality of Terminology Work in Translation” (ELOT, January 18, 2019), and a Webinar on “Terminology

¹ See more information in Maslias’ personal new website:
<https://terminologynetwork.eu/terminology-without-borders/>

and Terminology Resources – The Current Situation in Greece in 2021” (Panhellenic Association of Translators, March 17, 2021).

3. Terminology work and resources

Systematic terminology work in Greece is carried out by national organisations such as ELETO, KEEON, ELOT Technical Committees, and, until 2023, EDO. Periodical publications, including the *Bulletin of Scientific Terminology and Neologisms* (published by KEEON) and the newsletter *Orogramma* (published by ELETO), provide curated lists of terms organised by subject fields, Greek equivalents for English terms, and suggestions for neoterms.

In the field of terminology work, ELETO’s contribution is noteworthy. Its General Scientific Board (GESY) meets biweekly to address ad hoc terminology issues and work on specific subject terminologies. GESY also offers consultation to interested parties. Decisions regarding terminology are published in *Orogramma*, and drafts of subject dictionaries and glossaries are made publicly available for comments and feedback on ELETO’s website before their final publication. ELETO also maintains a central repository of termbases, dictionaries, and glossaries developed by ELETO and its collaborators.^{1,2}

In the field of standardisation, the ELOT Technical Committees and Working Groups add significant value to Greek terminology through their systematic creation of bilingual glossaries (Greek-English, and Greek-English-French for ELOT/TC 21) included in each standard. These glossaries, extracted directly from the documents, are later integrated into termbases hosted on ELETO’s website (see Table 2). The standardisation efforts ensure consistency and accessibility for terminology in technical and scientific fields.

¹ Glossaries on ELETO website: <https://eletogr/en/terminology-resources/dictionaries-glossaries/>

² Termbases on ELETO website: <https://eletogr/en/terminology-resources/terminological-databases/>

Table 2 – List of multilingual termbases made available by ELETO
(November 2024)

Termbase	Domain	Languages	Body
ACOUTERM	Acoustics	GR/EN/FR/DE	GESY
CHROMOTERM	Colours		GESY
DOCUTERM	Information and documentation	GR/EN/FR	ELOT/TC 22
ELECTERM	Electrotechnology	GR/EN/FR/DE	
EMCTERM	ElectroMagnetic Compatibility	GR/EN/FR/DE	ELOT /TCE80/WG1
FORATERM	Miscellaneous terms (published in <i>Orogramma</i> or discussed in internet fora)	GR/EN	GESY
GEOTERM	Geology and Paleontology	GR/EN	GESY
INFORTERM	Information Technology	GR/EN/FR	ELOT/TC 48/WG1
LEXITERM	Telecommunications	GR/EN/FR	MOTO
OPTOTERM	Optics	GR/EN	GESY
PHILOTTERM	Philately	GR/EN	GESY
SENSOTERM	Sensory Analysis	GR/EN/FR/DE	GESY
TELETERM	Telecommunications	GR/EN/FR/DE	MOTO
TERMTERM	Terminology	GR/EN/FR	ELOT/TC 21
UNITTERM	Measurement units	GR/EN	GESY

In the field of development of terminology resources, various organisations, institutions, and individuals contribute to the creation of specialised monolingual and bilingual dictionaries in diverse subject fields. A review of Modern Greek electronic dictionaries from 1997 to 2013 (Mantzari and Pantazara, 2014) identified 27 specialised electronic dictionaries across various digital formats (e.g., CD/DVD, online, mobile/tablet) in various subject fields. Translations of well-known international dictionaries also serve as valuable bilingual resources, for example, in humanities such as linguistics, psychoanalysis, and translation studies. Glossaries are often embedded in doctoral dissertations or

translations of major works. However, no systematic listing of these resources exists.

Additionally, several research institutions play a pivotal role in the development of terminology tools and resources. The National Centre for Social Research and the National Research Foundation contribute to thesauri and application ontologies. ILSP develops lexica, corpora, and term extraction tools for various domains. The Institute of Computer Science (ICS-Forth), through its Centre for Cultural Informatics (CCI), specialises in terminological tools and thesauri for cultural and humanities domains, such as the multilingual thesaurus DYAS,¹ a collaborative project involving the Academy of Athens, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, and the Athens School of Fine Arts (as part of the DARIAH GR/DYAS and APOLLONIS projects). Finally, individual national R&D projects may also sometimes give free access to their terminological tools and resources; for example, the IATROLEXI² project provided biomedical language technology resources for Modern Greek, including terminology, corpora, and ontologies.

Despite the existence of multiple terminology sources, there remains a critical need for greater coordination. CLARIN:EL,³ part of the European CLARIN ERIC Infrastructure, serves as a platform for Greek language resources and technologies. It aggregates digital language data, including written and spoken corpora, lexica, multimodal resources, and databases, alongside tools for processing these data in accordance with FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable). However, the absence of a national term bank is partially mitigated by ELETO's voluntary efforts to centralise and make publicly accessible a wide range of terminology resources. ELETO's recently developed advanced search portal represents a step forward, offering enhanced search capabilities and integrating diverse terminological databases for unified access (see Figure 1).

¹ <https://en.dyas-net.gr/>

² <http://www.iatrolexi.gr/>

³ <https://www.clarin.gr/>

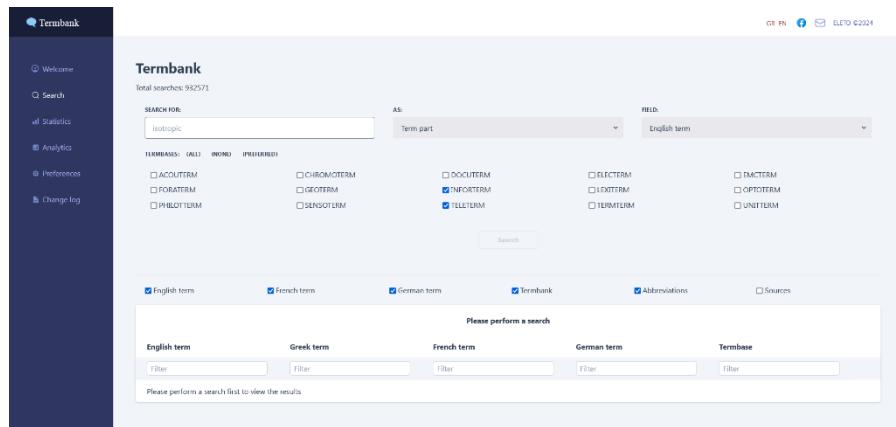


Figure 1 –ELETO Term bank advanced search portal:
<https://search.eletogr/>

4. Challenges and perspectives

Terminological work in Greece faces several critical challenges that need to be addressed. Cultivating awareness of the necessity of terminology in the Greek language is a primary concern. Achieving harmonisation and coordination requires the establishment of a coherent framework for terminology across domains at the national level. Increasing participation involves encouraging greater involvement of domain experts, language specialists, terminologists, academics, and other stakeholders in terminology processes. Enhancing visibility is another challenge, emphasising the need to promote the availability and accessibility of terminological resources and best practices.

Raising awareness goes beyond creating and standardising terminology; it involves integrating terminology into educational and professional training programs. ELETO strongly advocates for the inclusion of terminology studies in university curricula and actively provides specialised training for professionals. A well-informed community of practitioners is crucial for sustaining effective terminology work. ELETO's conferences provide a platform for presenting terminological research from diverse fields, fostering collaboration among

terminologists, scholars, and professionals. These events build a network of stakeholders who can collaborate on projects and share best practices. To further raise awareness, ELETO utilises social media and communication channels to engage a broader audience and emphasise the importance of terminology in various domains. Additionally, ELETO ensures access to terminology resources through its website and open-access publications, making glossaries, termbases, and documentation readily available for public use.

Despite ELETO's initiatives, efforts to establish a coordinated national framework for terminology in Greece have largely been unsuccessful. Notable examples include the 1990 Working Group on Terminology initiated by the General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), which proposed a coordinated research program that never progressed beyond its final report. In 2000, ELETO participated in the Coordination Committee of the National Programme for Terminological Coordination (EPOS), which was ultimately rejected.¹ Similarly, a 2006 conference examining France's terminology enrichment system (*Commission d'enrichissement de la langue française*) and investigating the possibility of establishing a similar system in Greece led to a draft bill proposing the creation of a National Body of Terminology, which was never submitted to Parliament. These examples underscore the absence of a national terminological policy, making ELETO's role critical but challenging due to the lack of institutional support.

Nevertheless, some successful practices in terminology coordination merit recognition. In 1990, committees such as ELOT/TC 21, MOTO, ELOT/TC 48/WG1, and others signed an agreement to harmonise Greek terms across fields and committees. Another example is the Hellenic Network for Terminology (EDO), founded by the Directorate-General for Translation of the European Commission. EDO facilitated collaboration between EU translators, Greek terminologists, and experts, validating terms for inclusion in the multilingual IATE database. Despite its success, EDO ceased operations at the end of 2023.

¹ EPOS in brief (presentation by Kostas Valeontis):
http://www.eleto.gr/download/BooksAndArticles/2000_EPOSinBrief.pdf

The future of terminology work in Greece must focus on establishing a comprehensive national terminology plan and language policy to achieve harmonisation and coordination. Expanding academic focus to include terminology studies as a standalone module beyond its current association with translation studies is crucial. Encouraging professional training and fostering partnerships at national and international levels are essential. Creating a national term bank to centralise and provide open access to terminological resources is a priority. Furthermore, cultivating innovative approaches to terminology research and development will ensure Greek terminology evolves to meet the needs of its users and aligns with international standards. By raising awareness, increasing participation, and promoting best practices, Greece can strengthen its terminological infrastructure and secure its place in the global terminological landscape.

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მავინა პანტაზარა

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საკვანძო სიტყვები: ბერმნული ტერმინოლოგია, ტერმინოლოგიური მუშაობა, ტერმინოლოგიის სტანდარტიზაცია, ტერმინოლოგიის კო-ორდინაცია, ტერმინოლოგიური კვლევები, ტერმინოლოგიის საზოგა-დოება

ტერმინოლოგიური კვლევა საბერმნეთში: მიმოხილვა,
გამოწვევები, პერსპექტივები

საბერმნეთში ტერმინოლოგიური მუშაობა რამდენიმე კრიტი-კულ გამოწვევას აწყდება, რომელთა მოგვარებაც გადაუდებელი ამო-ცანაა. ბერმნულ ენაზე ტერმინოლოგიის აუცილებლობის შესახებ ცნო-ბიერების ამაღლება უპირველესი საზრუნვავია. ჰარმონიზაციისა და კოორდინაციის მიღწევა მოითხოვს ტერმინოლოგიის თანმიმდევრუ-ლი გეგმის ჩამოყალიბებას ეროვნულ დონეზე სხვადასხვა სფეროში. მონაწილეობის გაზრდა გულისხმობს დარგის ექსპერტების, ენის სპე-ციალისტების, ტერმინოლოგების, აკადემიკოსებისა და სხვა დაინტე-რესებული მხარეების უფრო მეტ ჩართულობას ტერმინოლოგიურ პროცესებში.

ცნობიერების ამაღლება სცილდება ტერმინოლოგიის შექმნასა და სტანდარტიზაციას; ის გულისხმობს ტერმინოლოგიის ინტეგრირებას საგანმანათლებლო და პროფესიულ სასწავლო პროგრამებში. ELETO მტკიცედ უჭერს მხარს ტერმინოლოგიის სწავლების ჩართვას საუნივერსიტეტო სასწავლო გეგმებში და აქტიურად უძღვება საგანგებო სწავლებას პროფესიონალებისთვის. პრაქტიკოსთა კარგად ინფორმირებული საზოგადოება მნიშვნელოვან როლს ასრულებს ეფექტური ტერმინოლოგიური მუშაობის შენარჩუნებაში.

ELETO-ს კონფერენციები უზრუნველყოფს პლატფორმას სხვადასხვა სფეროს ტერმინოლოგიური კვლევის წარდგენისთვის, ტერმინოლოგების, მეცნიერებისა და პროფესიონალების თანამშრომლობის ხელშეწყობისთვის. ეს ღონისძიებები აყალიბებს დაინტერესებულ მხარეთა ქსელს. მათ შეუძლიათ პროექტებზე თანამშრომლობა და საუკეთესო პრაქტიკის გაზიარება. ცნობიერების ამაღლების მიზნით ELETO იყენებს სოციალურ მედიას, საკომუნიკაციო არხებს ფართო აუდიტორიის ჩასართვად და ხაზს უსვამს ტერმინოლოგიის მნიშვნელობას სხვადასხვა სფეროში. გარდა ამისა, ELETO უზრუნველყოფს ტერმინოლოგიურ რესურსებზე წვდომას მისი ვებგვერდებისა და ღია წვდომის პუბლიკაციების მეშვეობით, რაც ლექსიკონებს, ტერმინების ბაზებსა და დოკუმენტაციას ადვილად ხელმისაწვდომს ხდის საჯარო გამოყენებისთვის.

ELETO-ს ინიციატივების მიუხედავად, საბერძნეთში ტერმინოლოგიის კოორდინირებული ეროვნული გეგმის ჩამოყალიბების რამდენიმე მცდელობა დიდწილად წარუმატებელი აღმოჩნდა. ამისი თვალსაჩინო მაგალითია 1990 წელს ტერმინოლოგიაში სამუშაო ჯგუფის არსებობა, რომლის მუშაობა, სამწუხაროდ, არ გასცდენია საბოლოო ანგარიშებს. მისი შექმნის მოთავე იყო კვლევებისა და ტექნოლოგიების გენერალური სამდივნო (GSRT). 2000 წელს ELETO მონაწილეობდა ტერმინოლოგიური კოორდინაციის ეროვნული პროგრამის (EPOS) საკოორდინაციო კომიტეში, რომელიც საბოლოოდ არ დამტკიცდა. ანალოგიურად, 2006 წლის კონფერენციამ შეისწავლა საფრანგეთის ტერმინოლოგიის გამდიდრების სისტემა (Commission d'enrichissement de la langue française) და კვლევის საფუძველზე ჩამოაყალიბა მსგავსი სისტემის დაარსების შესაძლებლობა საბერძნეთში, რასაც უნდა მოჰყოლოდა კანონპროექტი ტერმინოლოგიის ეროვნული ორგანოს შექმნის შესახებ, თუმცა პარლამენტის წინაშე ის ჯერაც არ წარუდგენიათ.

ეს მაგალითები ხაზს უსვამს ეროვნული ტერმინოლოგიური პოლიტიკის არარსებობას, რაც ინსტიტუციური მხარდაჭერის ნაკლებობის გამო ELETOS-ს მძიმე გამოწვევის წინაშე აყენებს.

ამ მაგალითების გვერდით ტერმინოლოგიის კოორდინაციის ზოგიერთი წარმატებული პრაქტიკაც უნდა აღვნიშნოთ. 1990 წელს კომიტეტებმა, როგორებიცაა: ELOT/TC 21, MOTO, ELOT/TC 48/WG1 და სხვ. ხელი მოაწერეს შეთანხმებას ბერძნული ტერმინების ჰარმონიზაციის შესახებ სფეროებსა და კომიტეტებში. კიდევ ერთი მაგალითია ტერმინოლოგიის საბერძნეთის ქსელი (EDO), რომელიც დააარსა ევროკომისიის თარგმანის გენერალურმა დირექტორატმა. EDO-მ ხელი შეუწყო ევროკავშირის მთარგმნელებს, ბერძნულ ტერმინოლოგებსა და ექსპერტებს შორის თანამშრომლობას, ადასტურებდა ტერმინებს მრავალენოვანი IATE მონაცემთა ბაზაში შესატანად. წარმატების მიუხედავად, EDO-მ შეწყვიტა ფუნქციონირება 2023 წლის ბოლოს.

საბერძნეთში ტერმინოლოგიის მუშაობის მომავალი მიმართული უნდა იყოს ყოვლისმომცველი ეროვნული ტერმინოლოგიური გეგმისა და ენობრივი პოლიტიკის ჩამოყალიბებაზე ჰარმონიზაციისა და კოორდინაციის მისაღწევად. აუცილებელია პროფესიული სწავლების წახალისება და პარტნიორობის ხელშეწყობა ეროვნულ და საერთაშორისო დონეზე. პრიორიტეტულია ეროვნული ტერმინალური ბანკის შექმნა ტერმინოლოგიურ რესურსებზე ცენტრალიზებისა და ღია ხელმისაწვდომობის უზრუნველსაყოფად. გარდა ამისა, ტერმინოლოგიის კვლევებისა და განვითარების ინოვაციური მიდგომების დამუშავება უზრუნველყოფს ბერძნული ტერმინოლოგიის განვითარებას საერთაშორისო სტანდარტებთან შესაბამისად მომხმარებლების მოთხოვნილებების დასაკმაყოფილებლად. ცნობიერების ამაღლებით, მონაწილეობის გაზრდით და საუკეთესო პრაქტიკის ხელშეწყობით, საბერძნეთს შეუძლია გააძლიეროს ტერმინოლოგიური ინფრასტრუქტურა და უზრუნველყოს თავისი ადგილი საერთაშორისო ტერმინოლოგიურ გარემოში.