



INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH  
NATIONAL HELLENIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION



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***The Scholar's Laboratory.***

***Reading, Scholarly Production and Communication in the Age of Enlightenment as Seen through the History of Demetrios Darvaris' Private Library (1757-1823) [in Greek]***

IHR / NHRF, Section of Neohellenic Research, n. 132, Athens 2013, 376 p.

With the private library catalogue of a minor Greek scholar (Demetrios Darvaris, 1757-1821) as starting point, this book discusses some main issues in the history of ideas in Europe in the turn of the 18th to the 19th century. Under consideration are themes such as the “emergence of the author” and the socioeconomic conditions of the intellectual activity, the classification of knowledge and the cognitive norms of modernity, the concepts of scientific originality and popularization and the communication patterns of intellectual communities.

By exploring these topics, the book simultaneously enriches the discussion on Greek Enlightenment with new prospects and material. It “injects” the latter with the socio-historical perspective and questions the operational validity of the “centre-periphery” schema as a frame for examining the relation between the Greek and the European Enlightenment. Finally, the book stresses the importance of the “Enlightenments within the Enlightenment”, the dynamic of smaller intellectual communities within the context of the Greek Enlightenment and highlights the role of the Habsburg social and cultural context for the communication of the Balkan Enlightenments.