

## Preventive Conservation of Ecclesiastical Archive Material

**Christos Karydis \***

c.karydis@gmail.com

The archival material that an ecclesiastical institute keeps most of the time are constructed by a mixture of materials (paper, leather, textiles). These materials can be preserved in their first stage or state with a small alteration, if the keepers of the collection follows basic rules of preventive conservation of work of art. The archival material beyond their use in the orthodox adoration, many times brings historical and artistic value. The aim of this paper is to present the different types of the preservation methods such as conservation, restoration and preventive conservation and their differences between them. Types and main reasons of deterioration factors are also mentioned giving examples. Finally, ethical questions for the current methods of storage and display of archival materials are also presented.

- 
- *Dr. Christos Karydis is an assistant professor (407/80), at the A.T.E.I of Ionian Islands- Department of Protection & Conservation of Cultural Heritage (co-leader of the conservation labs), at the University Ecclesiastical Academy of Thessaloniki and at the Aristotle University of Thessalonica as a visitor lecturer. He specializes in the preventive conservation and history of religious Byzantine and post-Byzantine textiles. His undergraduate and postgraduate teaching has included history, interventive & preventive conservation of textiles, fibre identification analysis. He also contributes to the teaching of theory, practice and historiography of easel paintings, hagiography and fresco techniques. He completed his postdoctoral researcher in preventive conservation and history of ecclesiastical textiles with the collaboration of the Ormylia Diagnostic Art Centre and the Getty institute (Los Angeles). He was conferred with the Doctor of Philosophy award in 2010 at the University of Lincoln, UK. He received his Master of Arts in Preventive Conservation from Northumbria University and an MA in the Orthodox Theology from Greek Open University. After his first degree in Conservation from De Montfort University, UK he trained in textile conservation at the Textile Conservation Centre- University of Southampton, UK. He has been working in Churches and monasteries at Mount Athos, Jerusalem, Constantinople, Colombia, Spain, UK and Greece since 2002. He is an external advisor in monasteries at Mount Athos and at the Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. He is a representative member of ICOMOS-Greek Group in the I.S committee of education and prevention. Additionally, he has published three monographs and many papers. He is the author of the first book of preventive conservation of textiles written in Greek appeared in 2006.*