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Following the leaders – what we can do about Polish ETD projects?

Polish academic libraries have just started following the digitization path in Europe. But they do not stop at digitization only. They look for the next challenges and initiatives which have already been picked up in the worldwide librarianship and in information science. The kind of initiative, which is certainly faced recently in Poland, are the bases of the electronic master's theses and doctoral dissertations. Academic libraries have to confront many questions connected with copyright issues.

In the proposed paper, first Polish projects of the electronic master's theses and doctoral dissertations will be studied throughout in terms of the university's policy, theses accessibility, technical assistance and format guidance offered by the mother library. The influence of the EU directives, especially the 2001/29/EC one concerning the "Harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society", on domestic law and the necessary implementations in the university's policy will also be discussed.

Final comments will include recommendations about what can be done, what should be done and what must be done about the Polish ETD projects in the near future.