

Abstract (in English)

This thesis deals with the issue of information support of science and research development in Italy through information systems and library networks. The introductory chapter deals with several questions concerning the Italian academic environment and its relation to research and coordination of information. The second chapter introduces the current situation of Italian libraries, the library structures, legislation elements and mainly focuses on the institutions managing the libraries. The third chapter is devoted to science and research in Italy. The thesis also describes the current situation comparing it to other European countries. The emphasis is on major research institutions, support organizations and ministries. Followed by the explanation of funding and assessment of research institutions. The fourth chapter deals with the support of research in the area of Tuscany. The three largest universities of this region are analyzed – University of Florence, Pisa and Siena. After a description of these institutions, the thesis looks closely at their library networks, research activities and support. The conclusion summarizes the information obtained and answers the questions formulated in the introduction of this thesis.