https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

Digital Publishing, Open Access, and Grey Literature: The War in Ukraine 2022 as GreyNet's Use Case

Dominic Farace, GreyNet International, Netherlands
Plato L. Smith, University of Florida; George A. Smathers Libraries, USA
Stefania Biagioni and Carlo Carlesi, InfraScience; ISTI-CNR, Italy

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

International Directory of Organizations in Grey Literature

2nd Edition, January 2022

A GreyNet digital publication with links to the websites of 224 organizations worldwide along with their ROR-ID providing immediate access other digital persistent identifiers (PIDS) namely the GeoNames ID, ISNI, Crossref Funder ID, and Wikidata

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

GreyNet's Use Case on the War in Ukraine

Ukraine invaded on February 24th 2022

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

Online Survey

March 22, 2022 – May 19, 2022

Digital Publishing and Grey Literature: On the War in Ukraine 2022

This study aims to build a better understanding of digital publishing and grey literature, whereby the War in Ukraine 2022 serves as a use case. Grey Literature is produced on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in diverse digital formats that are not controlled by commercial publishing. Survey respondents have the opportunity to answer 10 questions that take about 3 minutes to complete.

5 Open-ended Questions

5 Yes/No Questions

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

Survey Population and Respondents

The link to the online survey was made openly accessible via GreyNet's IDGL, Distribution List, and Social Media

Survey Population	Number of Survey Respondents	Percentage of Questions Answered	Average # of Comments related to the Yes/No Questions
Uncontrolled	**35**	**88,3%**	**9.5**

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671.gp

Survey and Back Office Data

Survey Data compiled with other curated data allowed for the creation of 35 records in an Excel spreadsheet each containing 19 fields:

id (record)
org
org_acr
org_sector
country
org_url
ror_id
idgl (Y/N)
publish_22 (Y/N/YC/NC)
url_doi
title_publ
doc_type
data (Y/N/YC/NC)
avm (Y/N/YC/NC)
author (Y/N/YC/NC)
lname
fname
email
orcid

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

Overview of the Survey Findings

Survey Respondents			
Respondents	ORCiD	(Co)author/Editor	
35	**23**	**4**	
Digital Publications			
Publications	Document Types	Research Data	Audio-Visuals
23	**13**	**3**	**8**
Organizations			
Countries	Academics	ROR ID	IDGL
15	**15**	**29**	**26**
	Government		
	11		
	Business		
	2		
	Other		
	7		

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

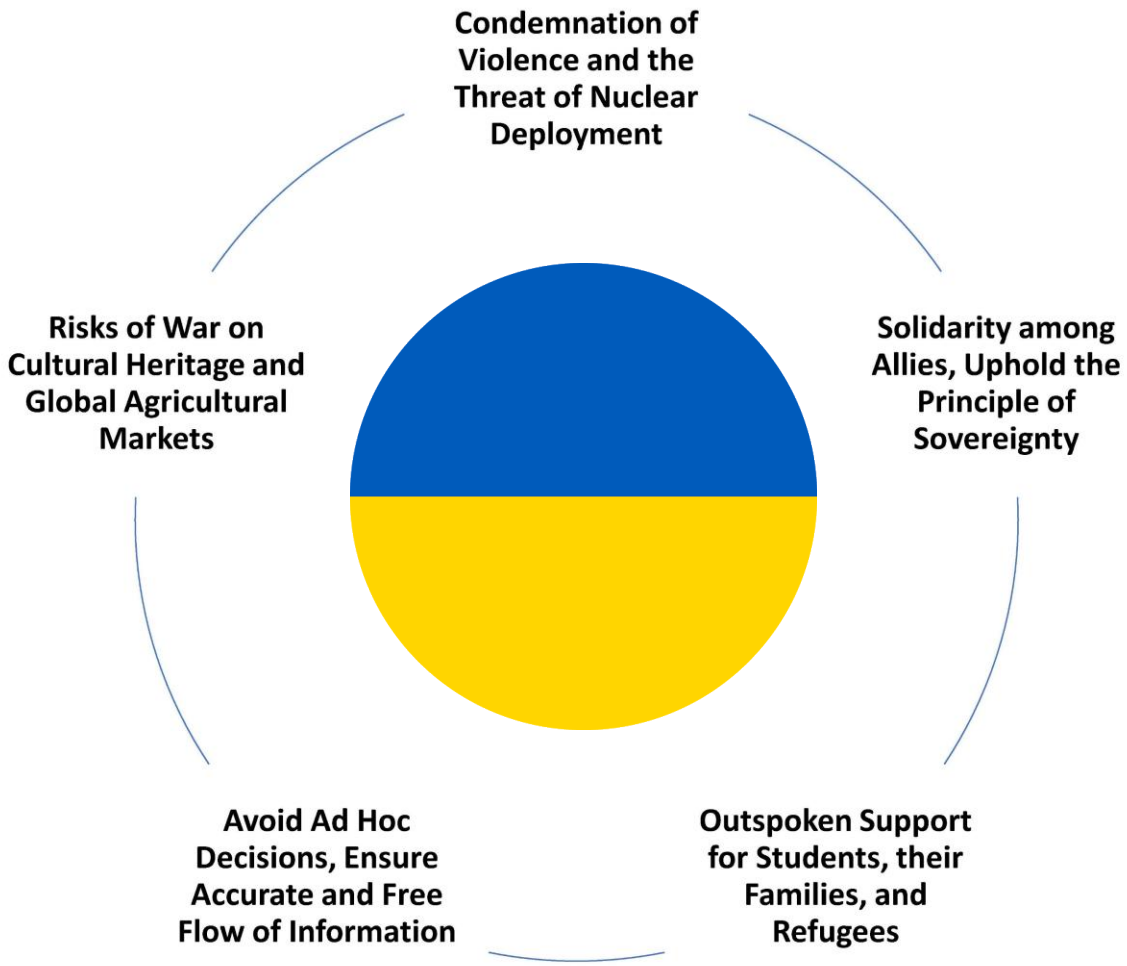
Summary of the Respondents' Comments

38 Comments recorded from 4 of the Yes/No Survey Questions

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

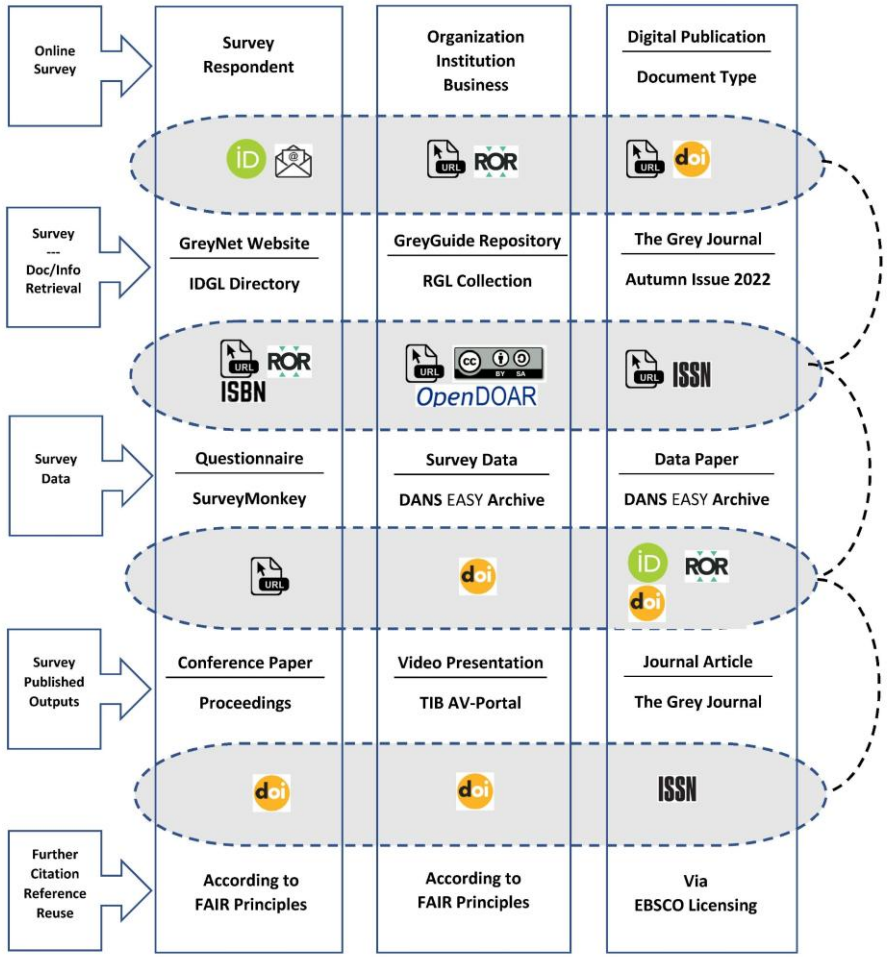
Summary of the 23 Digital Publications

https://doi.org/10.26009/gmyn.t-2025-000-Z71-en



Tracking Digital and Product Identifiers in Publishing

https://doi.org/10.26169/greynet-2025-000.611-gn



Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.6

Impact of Survey Data on Digital Publishing

GreyNet's Shared Workflow and Use Case

Data/Dataset	Published in the DANS EASY Archive
Data Paper	Published in GreyGuide Repository
Data Paper	Published as Article in The Grey Journal
Conference Paper	Published in the GreyGuide Repository
Conference Slides	Published on the GreyGuide Portal
Proceedings	Published on the GreyGuide Portal
Video Presentation	Published on the TIB AV Portal
IDGL 3rd edition	Published on the GreyNet Website

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022

Concluding Observations

Results from the Survey Data

On the War in Ukraine

Prompt response by sectors of government, non-government, academics, and business - this being the hallmark of grey literature. International coverage via multiple document types in textual and non-textual formats. Both imminent and pending concerns were voiced and recorded. Condemnation of war and the expression of solidarity. The call for the accurate and free flow of information.

On Digital Publishing

New organizations including their ROR IDs and the ORCiDs of the survey respondents were acquired. IDGL accounted for a near 75% of the survey responses demonstrating its value as a digital publication for the survey. The PIDS, URLs and other linked data harvested from the survey establish the reliability of the survey results and demonstrate FAIR data principles. The survey data can be tracked throughout GreyNet's digital publication trail.

https://doi.org/10.26069/greynet-2025-000.671-gn

Thanks for Viewing

Your comments and recommendations are most welcome!

info@greynet.org

GreyNet

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature
Publishing Grey Literature in the Digital Century
December 5, 2022