

**Southern European Libraries Link:
Supplementary Statement to the ICOLC Statement on the Global Economic Crisis
June 1, 2009**

The SELL consortia have individually endorsed the concerns and strategies of the ICOLC Statement on the Global Economic Crisis but wish to collectively emphasize the particular importance of the ICOLC statement for members of the SELL national groups, especially in light of:

- The particular vulnerability of library budgets in the southern European countries for the next 2-3 years
- The impressive strides that southern European countries have made in almost completely closing the resource gap with northern European and North American countries, which progress has provided an important element of SELL countries growing participation in and contribution to global research and development
- And the very real concern that any failure of SELL library consortia and publishers to find strategies for continuing to provide the majority of present resources to the academic communities of the SELL members will certainly prove to be not only severely disruptive but likely permanent, reversing one of the most productive and successful partnerships between libraries and publishers