

Androutsopoulou, A. (2000). **Idiography and nomothesis: The quest for integration.** *ΨΥΧΟΛΟΓΙΑ. Το Περιοδικό της Ελληνικής Ψυχολογικής Εταιρείας*,7(2), 151-160.

The present paper discusses the question of integration between the nomothetic and the idiographic approaches, using these two terms as conceptualized by Allport (including preference for epistemology, nature of data collected, methods for analysis etc). It is supported that integration efforts face the obstacle of antithetical philosophies, and that this obstacle is not one that we could simply step out of. Examples from the area of scientific inquiry are provided to also support the argument that any attempt to integrate approaches can never constitute a neutral and unbiased endeavor. Integration is differentiated from the notion of epistemological combination and of methodological eclecticism. It is seen as a process of synthesis following two steps: i) adoption of a clearly stated epistemological stance, and ii) broadening of our frame of reference. The notion of generalization of findings is used to illustrate this argument and to touch upon practical implications for researchers.