

The paper discusses the planning for an international initiative now being launched to make available English translations with concise commentaries of the collection assembled by Carl Müller (1813-1894) under the title *Geographi Graeci Minores* (Paris: Firmin-Didot, 1855-1861). Müller's two large volumes included twenty-six different Greek and Byzantine texts with apparatus criticus, Latin translations and extensive commentary; a supplementary volume of maps was provided too. English translations of many of these texts have appeared – especially within the past twenty years – on an individual basis (for example, Agatharcidis *De Mari Erythraeo* 1989, Anonymi *Periplus Maris Erythraei*, 1989, Arriani *Ponti Periplus*, 2003); hence they are scattered, and some are little known and difficult to obtain (Dionysii *Periegesis* only in a dissertation, for example). Other texts in the collection meantime remain neglected and untranslated (even into any language, let alone English), and no effort has been made to create a collection designed to be consistent in presentation, affordable, and aimed at a relatively wide cross-disciplinary readership.

The paper argues that the time is ripe to overcome this longstanding neglect of a large and important range of texts. Müller's commentaries and maps are inevitably very outdated today, and there are few Greekless readers satisfied by a Latin translation; moreover the sense of 'minor' inevitably conveyed to anglophones by the Latin adjective 'minores' in Müller's choice of title may well prove misleading. Meantime, however, ancient geography and awareness of space are currently attracting increased attention from a variety of perspectives, and the *Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World* (Princeton and Oxford, 2000) has inspired fresh attention to cartography.

Among aspects discussed in the paper is the relationship of the new initiative to the emerging Budé series *Les Géographes Grecques* (see especially D. Marcotte's Introduction Générale to vol. 1, 2000), and to the forthcoming fifth volume of *Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker*. Both projects are intended as definitive scholarship, while the latter's range embraces material which Müller excluded from his more focused collection; even so, both projects can provide an invaluable resource and complement for the planned new initiative in English. Also to be discussed, therefore, are its precise scope, the balance and length of its commentaries (more geographical and historical than textual or literary), and the nature of its geographical gazetteer and other indexing. A translation and commentary drafted in line with such principles is ready, and a sample of both will be presented for discussion and evaluation.