Narratives of the Greek crisis: book vs. blog?

The Greek debt crisis has produced an ever-growing body of prose fiction published in book form, including novels by Petros Markaris, Rhea Galanaki and Sotiris Dimitriou and short stories by Christos Oikonomou. However, the printed book is hardly the exclusive narrative outlet during the crisis. A growing list of blogs base their narrative output on a combination of social and literary commentary. In this paper I will examine how literary books fare against blogs and other social media postings in their discussion of the crisis. While the printed book is still considered to be an authoritative medium in representing the world, social media platforms offer counter-cultural narratives that challenge the published book and the industry behind it. Narratives in social networks challenge the printed book in modes of cultural economy, notably as they are (co-)created in the tropes of a participatory culture based in the architecture of Web 2.0, in the ways they are accessed and disseminated, reproduced and discussed. Thus, a study of literature of the crisis cannot be complete unless taking into consideration digital media, offering an alternative but equally critical voice.