Page content

View the page content by selecting any of the links below

- **What is copyright?**
- **What does it mean for you?**
- **Copyright at Taylor & Francis**
- **Why do we ask you to assign copyright to us?**
- **Useful definitions**
- **Useful links**

You are in: [Home](#) > [Copyright](#) > Copyright and you

**Copyright and you**

[Skip to navigation](#)

**What is copyright?**
Copyright gives the copyright holder exclusive rights over how others use their work.

As an author, this means that which copyright option you choose defines how researchers, scientists, policy makers, journalists, corporations, or anyone else who has an interest in your research can use your work.

Copyright has a time limit (usually life of the author plus 50–70 years for a journal article) and the level and type of protection offered varies between countries. Local and international laws and conventions mean that the copyright is recognized and protected, to varying degrees, in almost every country in the world.

In a digital world, how others want to read and reuse content is evolving rapidly. Understanding what your copyright options are is becoming ever more important, especially with the growth of open access publishing.

What does it mean for you?

Copyright allows you to protect your original material and stop others from using your work without your permission. It means others will generally need to credit you and your work properly, increasing its impact.

Copyright at Taylor & Francis

When publishing in a subscription journal published by Taylor & Francis, we ask you to assign copyright to us. Alternatively, any author publishing with us can also opt to retain their own copyright and sign a License to Publish (sample).

If you choose to assign copyright to us, as part of the publication process, you will be asked to sign a publishing agreement. This will be after your manuscript has been through the peer review process, has been accepted, and moves into production. Details will be sent to you via email, from the journal’s Production Editor.

Sample publishing agreement

Find out more about what defines a conflict of interest and how to declare it

Why do we ask you to assign copyright to us?
Asking you to assign copyright means we are showing our commitment to:

- Act as **stewards** of the **scholarly record** of your work
- **Defend** your article against plagiarism and copyright infringement
- Enable you to **share** your article (using your free eprints and Green Open Access at Taylor & Francis)
- Assure attribution of your work, by making sure you are **identified** as the author

We encourage you to:

- **Share your work**
- Make **printed copies** of your article to use for lecture or classroom purposes
- Include your article in a thesis or dissertation
- **Present your article at a meeting or conference** and distribute printed copies of the article
- Republish the article (making sure you cite the original article)
- Adapt and expand your published journal article to make it suitable for your thesis or dissertation

Alternatively, any author publishing with us can opt to retain their own copyright and sign a License to Publish.

**Useful definitions**

**Version of Record (VoR)**

"A fixed version of a journal article that has been made available by ... a publisher by formally and exclusively declaring the article 'published.'"

This includes any 'early release' article that is formally identified as being published even before the compilation of a volume issue and assignment of associated metadata, as long as it is citable via some permanent identifier(s).

This does not include any 'early release' article that has not yet been 'fixed' by processes that are still to be applied, such as copy-editing, proof corrections, layout, and typesetting."

*(Defined by National Information Standards Organization, in partnership with the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers.)*

**Useful links**

- [Creative Commons licenses](#)
- UK Intellectual Property Office's [What is copyright?](#) guide
- US Government's Copyright Office [guide to copyright](#)
- World Intellectual Property Organization [guide to copyright](#)
• Author guides:
  Before article acceptance
  - Preparation
  - Publishing ethics
  - Choosing a journal
  - Writing your article
  - Taylor & Francis Editing Services
  - Artwork
  - Supplemental material
  - Open access
  - Submission
  - Final checklist
  - Cover letter
  - Electronic submission
  - ScholarOne Manuscripts
  - Review
  - What is peer review?
  - Revising your manuscript

• Author guides:
  After article acceptance
  - Production
  - Checking proofs
  - Copy-editing
  - Correcting proofs with Adobe
  - Publication
  - Article versions
  - Corrections to published articles
  - CrossMark
  - Rapid online publication
  - Beyond publication
  - Promote your article
  - Optimize citations
  - Impact factors
  - Tweet your research
  - The art of blogging

Browse:

Author guides

• Preparation
Company Info

Lightbox_Scholarly purposes

**Personal (scholarly) purposes**

Authors can use their articles, in full or in part, for a wide range of scholarly, non-commercial purposes as outlined below:

- Share copies of the article and distribute them via email to colleagues for their research use (also known as 'scholarly sharing').
- Share the article for personal use or for the author's own classroom teaching.
- Use the article at a conference, meeting or for teaching purposes.
- Allow the author's employers to use the article for other internal purposes (such as training).
- Include the article in a printed compilation of the author's works, such as collected writings and lecture notes.
- Include the article in a thesis or dissertation.
- Use the article in full or in part to prepare other derivative works, including expanding the article to book-length form, with each work to include full acknowledgement of the article's original publication.

These rights apply for all Elsevier authors who publish their article as either a subscription article or an open access article. In all cases we require that all Elsevier authors always include a full acknowledgement and, if appropriate, a link to the final published version hosted on Science Direct.