

THE **PUBLISHERS**  
ASSOCIATION

ACCESSIBLE PUBLISHING

The Publisher Perspective



Emma House Deputy CEO, The PA

**Make all published outputs  
available to anyone who has a  
print impairment.**



## Why?



**COMMERCIAL**



**ETHICAL**



**LEGAL**



Equalities Act 2010



UK Copyright and Rights in Performance  
(Disability) Regulations 2014



2017 Changes to Section 508 of the  
**Rehabilitation Act of 1973** in the US



**LEGAL**  
(Existing)

<https://publishers.org.uk/activities/campaigns/accessibility/guidelines/>



European Accessibility Act



Marrakesh Treaty



**LEGAL**  
**(Impending)**



## MARRAKESH TREATY

- A national exception or limitation in copyright law for print disabled persons;
- An importation clause for ‘Accessible Format Copies’ (AFCs) that mirrors the national exception;
- An exception for so-called ‘Authorized Entities’ (‘AEs’, e.g. accredited, designated, approved, eligible non-profit organizations) to distribute and make available accessible format copies across borders, including to eligible print disabled persons;
- Absent voluntary measures by rightsholders, an obligation to ensure that TPM protection does not prevent authorized entities and print disabled persons, who have lawful access to literary works, from making required accessible format copies.

The Whole Picture

Providing accessible content isn't however restricted to publishers,



it must be the **whole supply chain.**

**This is all made much simpler with technology... most of the time!**

- **Large print now at the click of a button**
- **Ability to change fonts and backgrounds (helps dyslexic students)**
- **Ebooks which include text to speech functionality**
- **Different interface devices including refreshable braille and switches**
- **Price points**



## What Obstacles and Challenges remain?

- **In-house expertise and resource**
- **Promotion among the user community around what is available** (EPUB 3 rather than Word)
- **Data at every level:** publishers need to include information about the accessibility of their products within their ONIX feeds and this data needs to be displayed by vendors on their sites so that customers know what they are purchasing.
- **A double strategy** — Both assisting with the availability of access to individuals (supplying files) and building accessibility into the mainstream.
- **Working with legislators**

- **Accessibility Hub** [www.inclusivepublishing.org](http://www.inclusivepublishing.org)
- **BISG Quick Start Guide to Accessible Publishing**
- **EPUB standard**
- **Accessibility Checker Tool** - Ace from DAISY
- **Ebook Audit** <https://sites.google.com/site/ebookaudit2016/home>
- **Reading apps accessibility features** <http://www.epubtest.org/testsuite/accessibility/>
- **RNIB Bookshare**

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**GREAT STRIDES**

**PUBLISHERS HAVE MADE GREAT STRIDES**

**MAKING CONTENT MORE ACCESSIBLE**

**MAKES THE CONTENT BETTER**

THE **PUBLISHERS**  
ASSOCIATION

THANK YOU

**EMMA HOUSE**

**[EHOUSE@PUBLISHERS.ORG.UK](mailto:EHOUSE@PUBLISHERS.ORG.UK)**

**[WWW.PUBLISHERS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.PUBLISHERS.ORG.UK)**