Copyright Management for Authors

- Copyright Transfer Agreements
- Preserving your rights as an author
Your work – your rights

You are the creator / owner of your manuscript
The publisher needs your permission to publish your work

Three options:

- You assign the copyright **exclusively** to the publisher
- You assign the copyright **exclusively** to the publisher, but retain some specified rights
- You retain all rights and transfer the **non-exclusive** licence to publish your work to the publisher
## Exercise – Copyright Transfer Agreements (CTAs)

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<th>Question</th>
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Considerations about CTAs

Original work
Version of your work:
- pre-print
- post-print
- publisher’s version

Portion of the work concerned:
- part of
- percentage
- complete work

Conditions
Who does the reuse:
- you as the author
- your institution
- somebody else

Funder’s requirements:
- Open access
  - mandatory
  - eligible

Embargo time:
- 6 – 24 months

Re-used work
Adaption:
- as is
- derivative

Purpose:
- teaching
- compilation (dissertation, …)
- repository

Exploitation:
- commercial
- non-commercial
How to deal with CTAs

Prepare
- understand the agreement (and the publisher’s needs)
- anticipate your future needs (deal-breaker or nice to have?)

Discuss / negotiate
- explain your needs
- remember to barter (ask for more)

Are there other options?
- aims, you can concede
- other journal / publisher?
- licence back necessary rights
- pay for hybrid Open Access (not recommended!)

Execute the agreement
- signed writing is necessary
Read it, **change it** and then sign it

- Modify critical topics in the copyright transfer agreement such as "exclusive" transfer of "all" rights. It doesn’t have to be all or nothing.
- Alternatively, add an addendum that retains these rights

SPARC: [https://sparcopen.org/our-work/author-rights/](https://sparcopen.org/our-work/author-rights/)

Scholar's Copyright Addendum Engine: [scholars.sciencecommons.org](http://scholars.sciencecommons.org)

EC’s model amendment to publishing agreements: [www.openaire.eu/item/open-access-to-publications-in-horizon-2022](http://www.openaire.eu/item/open-access-to-publications-in-horizon-2022)
### Exercise – Copyright Addenda

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What if the publisher rejects the author addendum?

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Explain to the publisher why it is important for you to retain these rights in your own work.

Ask the publisher to articulate why the license rights provided under the SPARC Author Addendum are insufficient to allow publication.

Evaluate the adequacy of the publisher’s response in light of the reasonable and growing need for authors to retain certain key rights to their works.

Consider publishing with an organization that will facilitate the widest dissemination of their authors’ works, to help them fulfill their personal and professional goals as scholars.

Thank you for your attention!

… and all the best for your work and for your negotiations with publishers!
Sources and further reading

  online: [http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/copyright-ip/author-rights](http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/copyright-ip/author-rights)


- Science Commons: Scholar's Copyright Addendum Engine
  online: [http://scholars.sciencecommons.org/](http://scholars.sciencecommons.org/)

- SPARK, 2006: Author Rights & the SPARC Author Addendum. 
  online: [https://sparcopen.org/our-work/author-rights/](https://sparcopen.org/our-work/author-rights/)