

Marrakesh Treaty Questionnaire – Finland

1. Please indicate the relevant provisions in your national legislation providing for or regulating the limitations and exceptions to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled.

In 2018, changes were made to the Copyright Act. The relevant provisions are Section 17 and Sections 17 a-d.

2. Does your national legislation permit the cross-border exchange (i.e. exportation) of “accessible format copies”, as defined in Article 2 b) MVT? If yes, under which conditions?

Yes. Finland’s Copyright Act permits exporting accessible format copies for authorised entities. An authorised entity can make and distribute or lend an accessible format copy to a beneficiary person for exclusive use, or to another authorised entity in the internal market of the European Union (Section 17 b) as well as a non-EU country that is a party to the Marrakesh Treaty (Section 17 d). The provision refers to the EU VIP regulation (EU) 2017/1563 on the cross-border exchange between the Union and third countries of accessible format copies of certain works and other subject matter protected by copyright and related rights for the benefit of persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print-disabled.

3. Does your national legislation allow the importation of “accessible format copies”, as defined in Article 2 b) MVT? If yes, under which conditions?

Yes. Finland’s Copyright Act permits importing accessible format copies. An authorised entity can import for the exclusive of a beneficiary person an accessible format copy made by another authorised entity in the internal market of the European Union or by another authorised entity located in a country that is a party to the Marrakesh Treaty.

The rights of a beneficiary person to import accessible format copies are regulated by the Regulation (EU) 2017/1563.

4. Does your national legislation provide a definition of “authorized entity”, as defined in Article 2 c) MVT? If yes, please provide the reference.

Yes. Finland’s Copyright Act Section 17 b defines an authorized entity as follows

1. a non-profit entity which provides education, instructional training, adaptive reading or information access to beneficiary persons, or
2. a public institution or non-profit organisation which offers services mentioned in the subsection 1 to beneficiary persons as one of its primary activities, institutional obligations or as part of its public-interest missions.

5. Please provide a list with contact details of entities that can operate as authorized entities in your territory, and any further information that you can provide, such as number of accessible titles in the catalogue of the authorized entity and the languages covered.

Authorised entities in Finland are self-designating and for example many libraries could be authorised entities. To ensure the access to literature for the print disabled governmental funding is given to a special library operating under the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Celia Library for the Visually Impaired

[Link to the website](#), email: palvelut@celia.fi

About 50,000 accessible titles