

# COPYRIGHT AND PLAGIARISM

## COPYRIGHT

Copyright is defined by Article L111-1 of the [Intellectual Property Code \(CPI\)](#), which specifies that ‘the author of an intellectual work shall enjoy, by virtue of its creation alone, an exclusive intangible property right that is enforceable against all parties’. French copyright consists of two categories: **moral rights and economic rights**.

- **Moral rights** are inalienable, non-transferable and perpetual and include:
  - the right of disclosure (the right to communicate, or not, one's work to the public).
  - the right of paternity (the right to always be mentioned as the author).
  - the right to respect for the work (no modifications may be made without explicit prior consent).
  - the right of withdrawal (the right to withdraw a work from public distribution).
- **Economic rights** correspond to the rights to exploit a work, either through a right of representation or a right of reproduction. These exploitation rights generally give rise to remuneration. They are transferable and limited to 70 years after the author's death. After that, the work is considered to have fallen into the ‘public domain’.

### Legal exceptions to the author's economic rights

The law authorises the use of the disclosed work, without the author's authorisation, in the following cases:

- Private performance within the family circle (must be free of charge and performed exclusively within a family circle, which means an audience limited to relatives or close friends).
- Copying for private use (maximum 10% for books, 30% for magazines).
- The performance or reproduction of extracts from works for the sole purpose of illustration in the context of teaching and research.



- Analyses and short quotations justified by the critical, controversial, educational, scientific or informational nature of the work in which they are incorporated (provided that the name of the author and the source are clearly indicated).
- ...

## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the act of presenting someone else's work, ideas or words as your own, without giving credit to the original author. Plagiarism encompasses various practices:

- **Copy-and-paste plagiarism:** using text from another source without citing it.
- **Ghostwriting plagiarism:** purchasing another person's work and presenting it as your own.
- **Self-plagiarism:** using parts of your previous work without properly citing them.
- **Mosaic plagiarism:** copying and pasting together different pieces of text to create a kind of 'mosaic' or 'patchwork' of other researchers' ideas.
- **Translation plagiarism:** using a tool to translate someone else's paragraph into a foreign language and presenting it as your own translation without mentioning the source.
- **Paraphrase plagiarism:** translating someone else's idea into your own words without citing the source of the paraphrased idea or concept.
- **Reproducing artistic works** (images, photos, drawings, plans, graphics, works of art, etc.) without citing the source.

### ➤ Plagiarism risks

Plagiarism is subject to intellectual property legislation and infringes on the moral and economic rights of the authors of the original text, who may have legal grounds to take legal action against you.

Plagiarism can have serious consequences, both academically and professionally, as well as morally and legally:

- **Academic:** disciplinary sanctions, failure in examinations, expulsion from the institution.
- **Professional:** loss of credibility, damage to reputation, legal proceedings.
- **Moral:** the institution's reputation is at stake; the school has failed to educate the student about intellectual property rules and raise awareness of the regulations in force.
- **Legal:** the reproduction of an original work without the author's consent is legally classified as counterfeiting, an offence punishable by three years' imprisonment and a fine of €300,000.

To combat this practice, our schools have adopted anti-plagiarism charters and [Turnitin](#) plagiarism detection software, which allows teaching staff to identify sections of text that have been copied from online sources. It works by comparing students' assignments or work with a huge database of academic texts, books, articles and web content. The software then produces a similarity report that shows the portions of text that match other sources.



« Any work, regardless of its nature, found to be plagiarised will automatically be given a mark of 0/20.

Any repeat offence of plagiarism, in the same or a different piece of work related to the School's curriculum, will result in the perpetrator(s) being brought before the disciplinary committee. »

#### ➤ Telecom SudParis school rules

[See section 7.4.2 on plagiarism](#)

#### ➤ Institut Mines-Telecom Business School Anti-Plagiarism Charter

[See the charter](#)

## HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM?

### ➤ Cite your sources

When writing academic papers or any other scientific publication, it is essential **to rigorously cite your sources** and any ideas borrowed from other authors, whether they are quoted or reworded. This is necessary for three reasons.

- A **legal requirement** to respect the author's intellectual property (copyright).
- An **academic requirement** to enable a jury or professor to verify the relevance of the sources used.
- An **ethical requirement** that lends greater credibility to your work.

### ➤ Quotations

To cite your sources correctly in your document, use direct or indirect **quotations** with precise references: in order to identify the author of the ideas, statements or information used, sources should be placed in quotation marks, with a reference in the text or in a footnote specifying the exact bibliographical reference (author, title, publisher, date, etc.).

### ➤ Images

**Images** or **illustrations** (tables, graphs, drawings, icons, infographics, etc.) included in your document are also protected by copyright (an image without any mention of its terms of use is presumed to be protected by copyright).

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## ➤ Bibliography

Creating a bibliography allows you to respect the moral rights of the authors concerned by adopting honest and rigorous academic practices.

List all references cited in your document in your **bibliography** according to the required citation style (e.g. the APA standard developed by the American Psychological Association). It should be presented by category (books; periodicals; journal articles; dissertations, theses, reports; conferences; websites, etc.). References are presented in alphabetical order by author.

Only cite authors you have read and for whom you can provide precise references.

## ➤ How to cite your sources?

### **Book**

AUTHOR, First name. *Book Title*. Publication location: publisher, (if applicable) series, publication year, total number of pages.

### **Book chapter**

AUTHOR, First name. « Chapter title », in *Book title*. Publication location: publisher, (if applicable) series, publication year, pagination.

### **Journal article**

AUTHOR, First name. « Article title », *Journal title*, date, (if applicable) volume, issue, pagination.

### **Internet document**

AUTHOR, First name. *Resource title*, document date (date consulted), <URL>.

### **Image**

AUTHOR, First name. *Title*, production or broadcasting company, year, duration.

### **Video**

AUTHOR, First name. *Video title* [Online video], video date, Publisher (video accessed on ...), <URL>.

### **Online market study**

AUTHOR, First name. *Report/study title*, report/study date, Publisher (report/study accessed on ...), <URL>

### **Statistics**

AUTHOR, First name. *Resource title*, document date, Publisher (statistics accessed on ...), <URL>



## ➤ Use a bibliographic management software

Software such as **Zotero** automates the writing of your citations and helps you organise and automatically generate your bibliographies according to the bibliographic standard of your choice..

Zotero is free, open source software that does not collect user data:

- It is produced by a non-profit university foundation.
- It operates with all major web browsers.
- It is also compatible with Word, LibreOffice and Google Docs.
- It is backed by a large community of users who provide valuable assistance (forum, [documentation](#), numerous tutorials, etc.).
- It has the largest repository of usable bibliographic styles.
- It can be downloaded at ➤ <https://www.zotero.org/download/>
- You will then need to download a 'connector' to link your browser to Zotero. By default, Zotero offers the connector that is compatible with your browser.

