



Department
for Education

Yvonne Morris
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Our ref: MCB2017/07795/PS

Your ref:

29 March 2017

Dear Yvonne,

Thank you for your email dated 15 March, regarding the EU's implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate access to published works for persons who are blind, visually impaired or otherwise print disabled.

You express concern that implementation of the Treaty at EU level will see the introduction of a number of requirements which would be burdensome to those making accessible format copies, and which would undermine the objectives of the Treaty.

While I am unable to comment on the specific approach the UK might take to the currently ongoing EU negotiations on the implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty, I would like to reassure you that the UK Government strongly supports the aims of the Marrakesh Treaty, and seeks to ensure that its implementation at EU level promotes the availability of accessible format copies in the UK, EU, and worldwide, without undermining commercial markets.

We agree that any market safeguards which are introduced by Member States should not undermine the benefits that the Treaty is seeking to provide or place unreasonable burdens on organisations which provide accessible format copies.

In particular we would not want to see an agreement at EU level which would require Member States to introduce compensation for rightholders or registration of organisations making accessible copies.

Yours sincerely,

JO JOHNSON MP

