

granting usage rights with Creative Commons licenses

Why use Creative Commons licenses?

CC licenses allow international and contractually permitted reuse of copyright-protected content → benefit from legal compliance

CC-licensed content is science-friendly → encourage visibility, redistribution, and reuse

Most public funders support open access publications under CC licenses → benefit from specific funding offers

How CC licenses work

CC licenses are a contractual offer: 👤 ↔ 👤 By using the work users agree to the license and conclude a contract with the author.

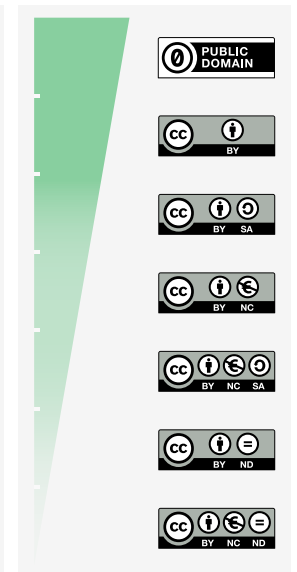
All CC licenses - with the exception of the CC0 license - have in common that ① the author, ② the source of the work and ③ all changes to the original work must be named in the subsequent use.

- ⚠ In case of non-compliance with the CC license terms, the copyright of the author applies.
- ⚠ Restrictions on reuse such as SHARE ALIKE Ⓞ, NON COMMERCIAL Ⓜ and NO DERIVATES Ⓝ must be complied with.
- ⚠ An issued CC license cannot be changed or revoked.
- ⚠ Legal permissions are not restricted by CC licenses.

Not all CC licenses support Open Access

All license modules can be freely combined (see below). Open Access compliant licenses are CC0, CC BY und CC BY-SA.

	CC0	ZERO	unrestricted reusability attribution not required
	CC BY	BY ATTRIBUTION	attribution required (appropriate credit of the author) no restrictions
	CC BY-SA	BY ATTRIBUTION + SHARE ALIKE	attribution required sharing under the same license
	CC BY-NC	BY ATTRIBUTION + NON COMMERCIAL	attribution required no commercial reuse and distribution → excludes platforms such as Academia, Researchgate or Wikimedia
	CC BY-ND	BY ATTRIBUTION + NO DERIVATES	attribution required no editing and reproduction → no reusability, only dissemination



CC licensing of metadata

The CC0 license enables the unrestricted reuse of metadata of scientific publications such as articles or research data.

Metadata are structured (meta) information about publications and serve their findability in databases and on digital platforms.

→ title, author name(s), affiliation(s), persistent identifiers (DOI, ORCID iD, ROR), abstract, keywords, references, dates, license, etc.