

PLR SYSTEMS AROUND THE WORLD: SOME BASIC FACTS

COUNTRY	FOUNDING LEGISLATION	SOURCE OF FUNDING	METHOD OF CALCULATION	CITIZENSHIP AND/OR LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT	ELIGIBLE MATERIAL	ELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTORS	MANAGED BY	LIBRARIES COVERED	OTHER USES OF PLR FUNDS
AUSTRALIA	PLR Act (1985) Program since 1974	National government	Stock count	Australian Citizens wherever they reside Non-citizens who are resident in Australia	Books, providing they have an ISBN, be offered for sale and have no more than 5 creators	Authors, Illustrators, Publishers	Government Department	Public and educational	
AUSTRIA	Copyright Act 1993 Program since 1977	National government and federal provinces	Loans based	Austrian/EU citizens and permanent residents of Austria	Works of literature lent out as books, journals, audio-visual works	Authors, Translators, Publishers	Collecting society (Literar Mechana)	Public and scientific	26% funds go for 'social and cultural purposes'
BELGIUM	Copyright Act 1994 and Royal Decree 2004	The three Belgian community governments	PLR funding based on number of registered library users	Not known	Printed and audio visual works	Rights holders of works lent out by libraries (incl authors, publishers, artists, producers)	Collecting society (Reprobel) (Payment distribution by rights holders' organisations)	Public	
CANADA	PLR Commission set up in 1986 but no statutory basis	Federal government	Stock count	Canadian Citizens wherever they reside Permanent residents of Canada	Books (except how-to and other types of non-fiction works) providing they are printed and have at least 48 pages	Authors, illustrators, photographers, editors, compilers, translators	PLR Commission under the Canada Council for the Arts	Public	
CROATIA	Copyright Act 2003	National government	Loans based			Authors, illustrators, translators	Croatian Writers Association	Public	
CZECH REPUBLIC	Amendment of Copyright Act 2006	National government	Loans based	Czech Nationals and foreign authors	Printed published works	Authors, illustrators, photographers, translators, adaptors	Collecting societies (DILIA – authors, translators, adaptors; OOA-S – illustrators, photographers)	Public	
DENMARK	1942 amendment to the Public Libraries Act coming into force in 1946; PLR Act 1992	National government	Stock and page count	No nationality restriction but books must be written in Danish language	Books, talking books, recorded music & art works	Authors, illustrators, translators, artists, photographers, composers and other contributors	PLR office under the National Library	Public and school	
ESTONIA	Copyright Law amendment 2000	National government	Loans based	Citizens or permanent residents of Estonia Books must be first published in Estonia	Books, audio visual works	Authors, translators, editors, adaptors, illustrators, publishers	Authors Remuneration Fund	Public	

COUNTRY	LEGAL STATUS	SOURCE OF FUNDING	METHOD OF CALCULATION	CITIZENSHIP AND/OR LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT	ELIGIBLE MATERIAL	ELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTORS	MANAGED BY	LIBRARIES COVERED	OTHER USES OF PLR FUNDS
FAROE ISLANDS	Act of Lending (1988)	National government	Stock count	Faroese citizenship or authors who write in the Faroese	Books – must be for sale in book stores	Authors, Translators, Illustrators	Faroese Library Centre	National Library, public and school libraries	
FINLAND	Act of Grants & Subsidies (1963); replaced by amendment to Copyright Act 2007	National government	Loans based	Authors and rightsholders living in EEA countries	Books and copyright works lent out by libraries, but not films or computer programs	Authors, illustrators, translators, designers, composers and other rightsholders (but not publishers)	Collecting societies representing authors (SANASTO), artists (KOPIOSTO) and composers (TEOSTO)	Public	
FRANCE	PLR Act 2003 (implemented 2005)	National government and library book suppliers	Payment per copy purchased and number of library users	French authors and publishers; reciprocal agreements with other countries	Books	Authors, illustrators, publishers	Collecting society (SOFIA)	Public	Authors' pensions
GERMANY	Copyright Law (1972)	90% National government 10% federal government	Loans based	No nationality or language restriction, but distribution to foreign authors only via collecting societies	Books, talking books, audio visual material	Authors, illustrators, editors, translators, publishers	Collecting societies: VG Wort (authors) and Bild Kunst (artists)	Public, higher education and other libraries	Authors' pensions
GREECE	Amendment to Copyright Act 1993	Various	_____	Understood to be open to EU authors	Books	Authors	OSDEL	Private and Agency libraries	OSDEL to purchase books for libraries participating in PLR.
GREENLAND	Included in National Library Act, 1993	National government	Stock count	Publications must be in Greenlandic or translated into Greenlandic	Books and talking books of more than 32 pages	Authors, illustrators, translators	National Library	National Library and other Greenlandic libraries	
HUNGARY	Amendment to Copyright Act 2008 (funding allocated but not available until 2012)	National government	Loans based	Hungarian authors and foreign authors under reciprocal agreements	Books	Authors	Hungarian Literary Authors Collecting Society (MISZJE)	Public libraries	
ICELAND	Author's Fund Library Act (1988); updated in 2007	National government	Loans based	Resident in Iceland and books written in Icelandic	Books – exceptions books with more than 3 authors and adult books with less than 36 pages; talking books	Authors, illustrators, translators, composers	Writers Library Fund	National University library, public, school and institutional libraries funded by government	
IRELAND	Amendment to Copyright Act in 2007	National government	Loans based	Open to Irish nationals anywhere and authors resident in EEA countries	Books	Authors, illustrators, translators, editors, photographers	PLR office under The Library Council	Public	

COUNTRY	LEGAL STATUS	SOURCE OF FUNDING	METHOD OF CALCULATION	CITIZENSHIP AND/OR LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT	ELIGIBLE MATERIAL	ELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTORS	MANAGED BY	LIBRARIES COVERED	OTHER USES OF PLR FUNDS
ISRAEL	Program Since 1986 but no PLR legislation.	National government	Loans based	Citizens of Israel who write in Hebrew or Arabic	Books but non fiction books not included	Authors	Committee representing Ministry of Education & Culture and Association of Hebrew Writers	Public	
ITALY	PLR Law (2006)	National government	Not determined yet but will be related to loans	Unknown	Printed works, audio books and other AV material	Authors, publishers and other rightsholders	Collecting society (SIAE)	State-funded and local government libraries (but not school or university libraries)	
LATVIA	Copyright Law (2000), Took effect 2006	National government	Funding based on 5% of state expenditure on library stock; payments based on loans	No special requirements	Books, sheet music, phonograms, films	Writers, translators, illustrators, compilers, adaptors/retellers, composers, film producers, narrators	Collecting society (AKKALAA)	State funded libraries except educational libraries	
LIECHTENSTEIN	Copyright Law (1999)	Not known	Not known	Rights holders under copyright law	Copies of literary and artistic works lent out	Authors, artists	Collecting society (Pro-Litteris)	Libraries accessible to the public	Not known
LITHUANIA	Copyright Law (1999), Came into effect 2002	National government	Loans based	Open to Lithuanian nationals, authors writing in Lithuanian, translators into Lithuanian, illustrators: open to foreign authors where reciprocal arrangements exist.	Books	Authors, illustrators, translators	Collecting society (LATGA-A)	Public	
LUXEMBOURG	Copyright Act (2001); Regulations 2007	Public Libraries	Loans based	Residents of Luxembourg	Books, audio visual works, music & newspapers and electronic media	Writers, illustrators, photographers, translators, adaptors/retellers	Collecting society (LUXORR)	Educational and scientific libraries are exempt and other specialist libraries; leaving about 15 public libraries to be included	
NETHERLANDS	Copyright Law (1988 and 1995) Program since 1971	Libraries	Loans based	No restriction since part of copyright law	Books, Talking Books, Audio Visual Material, Music, Magazines, Brochures, Works of Art, CDROMs	Authors, illustrators, Photographers, Editors/Compilers, Translators, Adaptors/Retellers, Publishers, Copyright Holders	Collecting society (Stichting Leenrecht working with LIRA)	Public	

COUNTRY	LEGAL STATUS	SOURCE OF FUNDING	METHOD OF CALCULATION	CITIZENSHIP AND/OR LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT	ELIGIBLE MATERIAL	ELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTORS	MANAGED BY	LIBRARIES COVERED	OTHER USES OF PLR FUNDS
NEW ZEALAND	Program Since 1973	National Government	Copies based	Must have permanent abode in New Zealand or be resident in New Zealand 6 months of the last twelve months (not consecutive)	Printed Books	Author/illustrator	National Library of New Zealand	New Zealand	NA
NORWAY	PLR Act (1987) but first established in 1947	National Government	Funding based on library stock holdings across the country	Books only written in Norwegian or Sami and published in Norway	Books	Any author of a book published in Norway	Government department giving PLR funds to rights holders' organisations for payment to authors as grants	Public, school, research, prison	Travel and study grants
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Copyright Act (1998); amended 2007.	National government via National Library	Loans based	Not known	Literary, dramatic, audio visual, photographic and artistic works	Authors	Collecting society (LITA)	Public	
SLOVENIA	Law on Authors' Rights (1995) followed by laws in 2002, 2004, 2009	National Government (funding based on 25% of government spend on library stock)	Loans based and grants	Citizens of Slovenia for books published in Slovenia	Books, audio visual works	Authors, illustrators, translators, lyrics composers, writers, film directors, screenplay writers	Slovenian Book Agency	Public	Scholarships
SPAIN	1994 legislation revised in 2006 IP Act to include public libraries	Local municipalities with more than 5000 citizens; central government	Likely to be based on copies purchased and payment per registered user	Not known	Books	Authors	Collecting society (CEDRO)	Public	
SWEDEN	State Decree (1954)	National Government	Loans based	Authors who write in Swedish or live permanently in Sweden, translators	All books including reference	Authors, illustrators, translators	Swedish Authors Fund	Public	Grants and support for authors
UNITED KINGDOM	PLR Act 1979. Scheme operational from 1982.	National government	Loans based	Residents of the EEA regardless of nationality	Books and (since 2010) audio and some types of ebook	Authors, illustrators, editors/compliers, translators, adaptors/reriters; producers and narrators of audio books	Registrar of PLR	Public	

(UPDATED MAR 2014)