

Open Forum - EU Inclusive Publishing

February 4, 2025 at 1600 CEST

[Homepage for European Inclusive Publishing Forum](#)

[Notes of the last meeting held on November 26, 2024](#)

Notes for all the meetings can be found on the [European Inclusive Publishing Forum page](#).

If you have items for the agenda for these meetings, please write to rorne@daisy.org or inform Thomas at the start of the meeting.

Richard reported on the Countdown to EAA webinars that happened since the last Forum meeting

- November 27, 2024 [“Accessibility In Practice – T-206 Days”](#)
- January 22, 2025 [“Accessibility Metadata – T-157 Days”](#)

In the January webinar there was the first [preview demonstration](#) of DAISY's forthcoming [Accessibility Metadata Viewer](#).

Avneesh mentioned that the [Editor's Draft of the Display Guide for Accessibility Metadata](#) is progressing. The techniques for schema.org and ONIX are finalized. Some amends are needed on the Principles document, if this goes smoothly in the community group then there can be a candidate release next week.

Avneesh also reported on some **software releases**. [EPUBCheck](#) has been updated to version 5.2 and [Ace by DAISY](#) will be updated in the next few days.

Elisa provided an update from the **APACE project**. The video is available of the last session [Accessibility in digital lending platforms for all public and university libraries](#). Then on February 25 the Ask the Expert session will be on [Reading apps and accessibility](#) which will be hosted by Katie Durand and feature Richard Orme.

Maarten mentioned that Dedicon provided **accessibility training** to the national authority in the Netherlands who will have responsibility for supervision of the EAA. After this training there is more confidence that the supervision will go well. Dedicon is providing more and more training to publishers.

Richard spoke on the topic of a **survey of preparation for the EAA**. When we ran the baseline survey in late 2021 the following countries responded: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. There were questions that asked about government responsibility, stakeholder groups, country websites, and training. Respondents were able to provide a traffic light assessment of how ready the country was for successful implementation, and to share their priorities and success stories.

Daniel said this survey would be important and could be very interesting to the Commission. He mentioned that a big topic is about the variation in the implementation. Perhaps the survey could provide a sense of this, such as whether there are different timelines for the backlist. He is also curious about whether accessible publishing means a change of thinking about copyright exceptions, such as those in the Marrakesh Treaty, and is this discussion different between EU countries.

On the timing of the survey, Maarten thought that if the results came out for the implementation deadline, this is also when people are heading into summer. Perhaps it would be better to have the results earlier.

Thomas suggested a timeline to start in March with results coming out in April, and Maarten agreed. Thomas also expressed hope for more countries to respond to the survey.

Bill asked if it were possible to identify an authoritative body in each country to complete the survey.

Miia in Finland informed that CELIA will run a survey of publishers and was pleased to hear that this is not a conflict since the DAISY survey is at a national level. It will be very interesting to learn about the differences in national implementations.

Richard mentioned some **upcoming webinars**:

- February 26, 2025 [“The Essentials in your Toolbox – T-122 Days”](#)
- March 26, 2025 [“Accessible Math and Science in Digital Publications – T-94 Days”](#)

Yet to be announced:

- 30 April 2025 Publishing Accessibility Policy and Practice
- 28 May 2025 AI and accessible publishing
- 25 June 2025 Celebration, reflection, looking ahead

Date of next meeting

29 April at 1600 Central Europe time.