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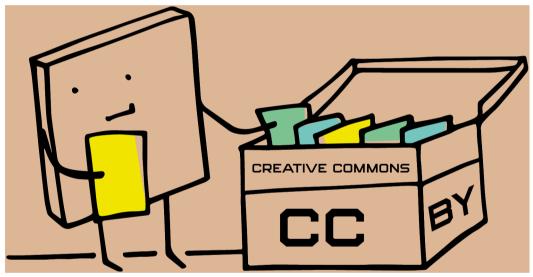
# Why has the journal *Mutations en Méditerranée* (MeM) chosen the Creative Commons CC-BY license?

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#### Reminder: Creative Commons license goals and functionality

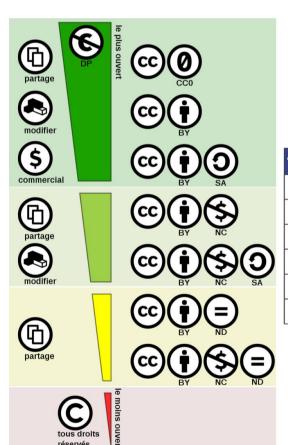
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BY NC ND ⊕ ⊜ ⊕	oui	non	non	non	oui
BY NC SA <b>③ ⑥ ②</b>	oui	non	oui	oui	oui
BY SA <b>④ ⊚</b>	oui	oui	oui	oui	oui

Lefthand image: ranking of the different licenses, from the most open to the least open, Simon Villeneuve, April 4, 2017, CC-BY-SA 4.0; righthand image: table of Creative Commons licenses, economie.gouv.fr/apie/propriete-intellectuelle-publications/contenus-sous-licences-libres.

#### **Avoiding exclusive control**

One of the protections that <u>Creative Commons licenses</u> provide is ensuring that a person cannot take advantage of a privileged position on the market to claim the economic rights of authors for exclusive purposes, thus establishing a monopoly and making it impossible to distribute scientific publications to a wider public, including for non-commercial purposes.

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There subsequently exists no possibility of market domination by specific commercial entities: the latter can derive positive externalities from re-use permitted by the license, but cannot exclude other actors from also benefiting at their level. This scenario thus allows for openness and facilitates the dissemination of knowledge within society at large.

The NC – No Commercial option, can serve to impede "virtuous commercial use," as illustrated by this example concerning Wikipedia, and referenced by Lionel Maurel in the following quote:

"The project consisted of putting Wikipedia or portions of Wikipedia on USB drives, to distribute them to geographical areas lacking internet coverage, notably on the African continent. This project was in fact selling the flash drives for profit and if Wikipedia had an NC option, well, then this project could not exist, because selling the USB drives would be considered commercial use [...] we must not regulate commercial use because there are instances of this type of use that are virtuous, and therefore not problematic. (Transl. Original text in footnote)"<sup>2</sup>.

#### Promoting research progress and development beyond language groups

The <u>CC-BY license</u> authorizes users to copy and redistribute a work, but also to adapt, rework, transform, translate and update it, thus producing a second body of work. If the user modifies the original work, they may subsequently apply the license of their choice to the derived product.

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By authorizing the modification of a work, the <u>CC-BY license</u> allows for translation and thus offers the possibility of overcoming language barriers, making it not only possible to disseminate research more widely, but also to encourage further potential scientific

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<sup>2. &</sup>lt;u>Lionel Maurel</u>, « Licences à réciprocité : nouvelles pistes pour le développement des Communs. L'usage commercial n'est pas une "enclosure" », 19 mars 2017, <u>april.org/licences-reciprocite-nouvelle-piste-pour-le-developpement-des-communs-lionel-maurel</u>.

collaborations.

It should not be forgotten that the CC-BY license is based on the following principles:

- the name of the author of the original work must be explicitly mentioned;
- the moral rights of the original work's author must be respected, in particular the attribution and integrity of the work;
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Scientific publications, distributed under a Creative Commons license as open as the <u>CC-BY</u>, should expect to benefit from increased international visibility.

## Plan S (Open Science): a European initiative in favor of the non-assignment of rights to scientific publications

A major feature concerning the future of journals and books is emerging within the European Union: <u>Plan S</u>. This initiative, led by research agencies aiming to generalize Open Access to scientific publications, seeks to: develop and make compulsory, the free, immediate, and unrestricted access to research publications and data thanks to digital opportunities.

The members of <u>cOAlition S</u>, including the Agence nationale de la Recherche (<u>ANR</u>), specify that in order to implement this strategy, publications, financed with public funds, must be immediately available in open access format, with a <u>CC-BY license</u> authorizing, in particular, the reproduction, distribution, communication, use (including for commercial purposes), and modification of the work. The <u>strategy of non-assignment of rights</u>, driven by <u>Plan S</u>, thus participates in a rationale seeking openness and the spread of scientific knowledge. This is also in line with the <u>second National Plan for Open Science</u> already implemented in France. The challenge is to guarantee the circulation of knowledge within the scientific community and beyond.

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#### **Additional sources**

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