

L-Iskema tal-Jeddijiet tas-Self Pubbliku

Immedija għall-ewwel darba fl-2014, l-iskema tal-Jeddijiet tas-Self Pubbliku m'haddma mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb (KNK) tiżgura li l-awturi jirċievu kumpens kull darba li ktieb tagħhom jiġi missellef mil-libreriji pubbliċi f'Malta u Għawdex. L-introduzzjoni ta' din l-iskema ġabet lil Malta konformi mad-Direttiva tal-Unjoni Ewropea 2006/115/KE. L-iskema, mibnija fuq il-prinċipju li kull xogħol haqqu hlasu, kienet imfassla biex tikkompensa lill-awturi, lit-tradutturi, lill-edituri, lill-illustraturi u lill-fotografi meta x-xogħlijiet tagħhom jiġu missellfa mill-pubbliku. Fl-2021, l-iskema ġiet estiża għal-Librerija tal-Università ta' Malta, u l-awturi bdew jkunu kkompensati minn din l-istituzzjoni wkoll. L-iskema tal-PLR hija maħsuba speċifikament biex tgħin u tteġġeg lill-awturi u lit-tradutturi haġġin biex jiktbu xogħlijiet godda. Il-qraba tal-benefiċjarji tal-iskema tal-PLR ma jirċevux remunerazzjonijiet wara l-mewt tal-applikanti.

L-eligibbiltà għar-remunerazzjoni tal-PLR tapplika biss għal pubblikazzjonijiet mislufa li jinkludu l-kotba stampati kollha – bħal xogħlijiet letterarji, titli mhux fittizji, kotba tat-tfal, kotba tal-iskola, u komiks jew rumanzi grafiċi – li għandhom ISBN maħruġ mill-KNK. Barra minn hekk, id-depożitu legali tal-pubblikazzjonijiet rilevanti jrid ikun ġie affettwat fl-Uffiċċju Nazzjonali tal-Biblijografija tal-Libreriji ta' Malta, f'konformità mal-Att Nru. 2 tal-1925 u l-Att dwar il-Libreriji ta' Malta (2011). L-iskema hija ffinanzjata mill-Gvern ta' Malta li jalloka €80,000 kull sena, u l-ħlasijiet jinħarġu kull tliet xhur lill-abbonati kollha.

Sal-2026, l-iskema tinkludi aktar minn 340 awtur, traduttur, editur, illustratur, u fotografu li jibbenefikaw minn 4 distribuzzjonijiet fis-sena. Il-KNK iħeġġeg lill-awturi li għadhom ma rreġistrawx fl-iskema biex japplikaw online billi jimlew il-formola tal-applikazzjoni li jistgħu jsibu fuq is-sit tal-KNK.

Mistoqsijiet komuni:

1. X'inhuma l-kriterji tal-**eligibbiltà** għall-PLR?

- Kull ktieb għandu jkollu ISBN maħruġ mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb.
- Kull pubblikazzjoni għandha tkun konformi mal-liġi tad-depożitu legali li tirrikjedi li żewġ kopji għandhom ikunu ddepożitati l-Biblijoteka Nazzjonali ta' Malta.

2. Bħala benefiċjarju prospettiv, jiena rrid **napplika għal kull ktieb** tiegħi?

Le, meta tirreġistra għall-PLR, inti tirreġistra bħala awtur/traduttur/editur/illustratur/fotografu u mhux għal kotba partikolari, jiġifieri jekk tippubblika ktieb b'ISBN Malti pprovdut mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb, dan awtomatikament jingħadd mal-kotba tiegħek fl-iskema tal-PLR, dment li jkun hemm kopja tiegħu fil-libreriji.

3. Hemm xi **limitu** fuq l-ammont ta' ħlas dovut lil benefiċjarju wieħed?

Biex jiġi evitat kumpens sproporzjonat lil xi benefiċjarji u mhux oħrajn, hemm limitu annwali ta' €5,000 għal benefiċjarju wieħed.

4. Farġet il-lista tal-benefiċjarji u l-ammonti dovuti lilhom għal kwart tas-sena, iżda **ismi mhux jidher** hemm, avolja jiena rreġistrat f'din l-iskema. Għaliex?

Jekk inti rreġistrat f'din l-iskema, iżda ismek ma jidhirx fil-lista ta' benefiċjarji għal kwart partikolari, jista' jkun li l-kotba tiegħek ma ġewx missellfa fil-libreriji f'dan il-kwart.

5. **Meta jmut awtur**, il-kumpens tiegħu jgħaddi għand il-werrieta?

Le, meta jmut awtur, dan jinqata' mil-lista tal-PLR. Jieħu l-ħlas biss tal-aħħar kwart tas-sena sħiħ li kien ħaj fih. Il-qraba tal-benefiċjarji tal-iskema tal-PLR ma jirċevux remunerazzjonijiet wara l-mewt tal-applikanti.

Kwalunkwe mistoqsija dwar il-PLR għandha tintbagħat lil Sephora Francalanza fuq sephora.francalanza@gov.mt

The Public Lending Rights Scheme (PLR)

The Public Lending Rights Scheme (PLR), launched in 2014 by the National Book Council (NBC), ensures that authors are compensated each time their book is borrowed from public libraries in Malta and Gozo. The introduction of this scheme brought Malta in line with the European Union Directive 2026/115/EC. The scheme is founded on the principle that every job deserves its due payment. It was designed in a way that it would compensate authors, translators, editors, illustrators and photographers when their works are borrowed by the public. In 2021, the scheme was extended to the University of Malta Library, and authors started getting compensated by this institution as well. The PLR scheme is specifically designed to help and encourage living authors and translators to write new works. The beneficiaries' relatives do not receive remuneration after the beneficiaries pass away.

The eligibility for remuneration for the PLR only applies to borrowed publications which include all printed books - such as literary works, non-fiction titles, children's books, schoolbooks, and comics or graphic novels - whose ISBN was issued by the NBC. Apart from this, it is necessary that the legal deposit for the relevant publications would have been affected at the National Bibliographic Office of Malta Libraries, in line with Act No. II of 1925 and the Malta Libraries Act (2011). The scheme is financed by the Government of Malta which allocates €80,000 every year, and payments are issued to all those registered every three months.

As of 2026, the scheme includes over 340 authors, translators, editors, illustrators, and photographers that benefit from 4 distributions per year. The NBC encourages authors that have not yet registered for the scheme to apply online by filling in the application form on the NBC website.

Frequently asked questions:

1. What are the **eligibility** criteria for the PLR?

- Each book must have an ISBN issued by the National Book Council.
- Each publication should be in line with the law about legal deposits which stipulates that two copies should be deposited at the National

Library of Malta.

2. As a prospective beneficiary, do I need to submit **an application form for each book**?

No, when you register for the PLR, you are registering as an author/translator/editor/illustrator/photographer and not for any particular book, which means that when you publish a book with a Maltese ISBN provided by the National Book Council, this will automatically be added to your books listed in the PLR scheme, given that there is a copy of this book in the public libraries.

3. Is there a **limit** on the amount of payment given to one beneficiary?

So as to avoid disproportionate compensation to some beneficiaries and not others, there is an annual limit of €5,000 for a single beneficiary.

4. The list of beneficiaries along with the amounts for a particular quarter was published, but **my name doesn't show**, even though I am registered for the scheme. Why?

If you are registered for the scheme, but your name does not show in the list of beneficiaries for a particular quarter, the reason could be that your books were not borrowed from the libraries in this particular quarter.

5. **When an author passes away**, does their compensation get passed onto their heirs?

No, when an author dies, they are removed from the PLR list. They get compensated for the last full quarter in which they were still alive. The beneficiaries' relatives do not receive remuneration after the beneficiaries pass away.

Any query related to the PLR should be sent to Sephora Francalanza on sephora.francalanza@gov.mt