

# BA A2K Platform Newsletter

Non Periodic Issue (7)

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*"It is impossible for a man to learn what he thinks he already knows."*

*Epictetus*



## Creative Commons Egyptian License Draft Open for Public Discussion



The past year witnessed some major achievements for Creative Commons in the Arab world. Highlights included Al Jazeera's adoption of CC BY for the world's **first broadcast-quality online repository** and CC Jordan's substantial efforts on the first Arabic license port.

2010 promises more exciting developments for the rapidly-growing CC community in the Arab world. Today the legal team from **CC Egypt**, headed by Hala Essalmawi, produced the **first BY-NC-SA license draft** adapted to Egyptian law.

Thanks to the ongoing efforts of Hala and her team, supported by CC Jordan's Rami Olwan and Ziad Maraqa, the Egyptian draft is now ready for public

discussion. The public discussion is an open forum where everyone – from lawyers to active license users, from linguists to translators — is invited to contribute. If you have comments about different aspects of the licenses, whether in regards to legal, linguistic or usability issues, please feel welcome to join the **CC Egypt mailing list** and share your thoughts. Comments should be submitted as soon as possible to allow enough time for review, so we encourage you to post to the list before the end of March. The **Arabic** and **English** versions of the Egyptian BY-NC-SA license are available, as is a **summary of the substantial changes** proposed by the legal team to port the



licenses to Egyptian copyright law.

As efforts across the Arab world continue to expand and gather peer support, we hope that the Egyptian public discussion will foster more cross-border collaborations. This inter-jurisdictional support is a model that is particularly strong in the region, and hopefully it can become a viable approach for future projects.

Congratulations to CC Egypt, and we all look forward to comments from you, the public!

Michelle Thorne,  
February 1st, 2010



## Well Known Users of CC Licenses in the Arab World

October 19th, 2009

**Al Jazeera Blogs Go CC**  
Al Jazeera has just launched the latest of its online project called **Al Jazeera Blogs**.

The website features blog posts written by prominent journalists and correspondents from the global Al Jazeera television network.

January 13th, 2009

**Al Jazeera Announces Launch of Free Footage Under Creative Commons License**

Al Jazeera Network today announced the world's first repository of broadcast-quality video footage released under the Creative Commons 3.0 Attribution license.

January 13th, 2009

**Al Jazeera Launches Creative Commons Repository**

Al Jazeera is releasing 12 broadcast quality videos today shot in Gaza under Creative Commons' **least restrictive Attribution license**.



## News Highlights

### Anti—Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)

January 8th, 2010

**Legislators Worldwide Asking Questions About ACTA**

January 22nd, 2010

**Educators beware: The Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement**

January 25th, 2010

**Blogging ACTA Across the Globe: CIPPIC's David Fewer on What ACTA Means for Canadian Citizens**

January 27th, 2010

**ACTA Talks in Mexico to Address Transparency Concerns**

January 31st, 2010

**ACTA Negotiators Report No Breakthroughs On Transparency**

February 3rd, 2010

**ACTA Absurdity Continues, May Only Get Worse**



### Google and The World

January 13th, 2010

**Google Challenge to China Over Censorship**

January 14th, 2010

**France Likely To Work with Google on Digitization**

January 16th, 2010

**U.S. Plans to Issue Official Protest to China Over Attack on Google**

February 1st, 2010

**Authors Cry Foul Over Google 'Rights Grab'**

February 2nd, 2010

**Stanford Signs Google Book Search Agreement, Endorses Court Settlement**

February 5th, 2010

**Google Book Deal Still Needs Work, US Justice Department Says**



### Contribute to International Survey on Orphan Works

Experts who create and curate digital content from public sector organizations across Europe, are invited to contribute to JISC's international survey on 'orphan works' called 'In from the Cold Europa 2010'.



### A2K In Practice



#### Podcasts can inform poor farmers

People in developing countries often lack information that could transform their economic circumstances.

Those in remote parts of Africa, in particular, could benefit from knowledge that would help them move up from subsistence farming to become successful, commercial smallholders.



## A2K In Egypt



### A Report on Access to Knowledge in Egypt by the (ACA2K) Project



As part of the African Copyright and Access to Knowledge project, a report on A2K in Egypt **By Dr. Awad, Dr. El-Gheriani and Dr. Abou Zeid** highlighted the Role of the BA A2K project stating that the “Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) is arguably the main A2K advocate and supporter in Egypt and the Arab world.”

The report indicates that through the A2K’s electronic platform, events, and publications (including the toolkits), the BA is able to draw the attention of a wide audience to the relationship between IP and development.

Please Check the [Report](#)

*“Imagination is more important than knowledge. For while knowledge defines all we currently know and understand, imagination points to all we might yet discover and create.”*  
*Albert Einstein*

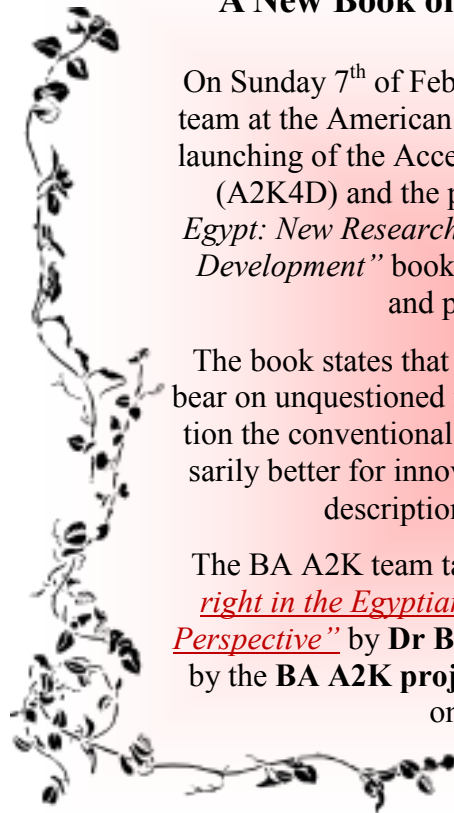


### A New Book on Access to Knowledge in Egypt

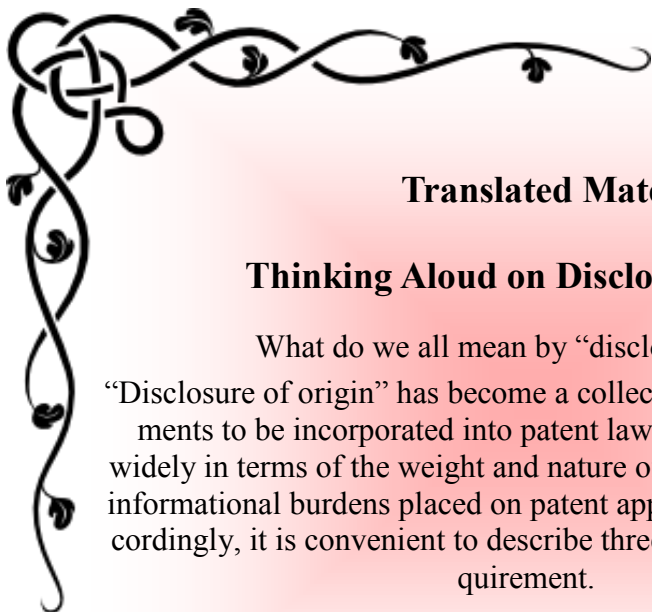
On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> of Feb. 2010 the Access to Knowledge research team at the American University in Cairo (AUC) celebrated the launching of the Access to Knowledge for Development Center (A2K4D) and the publication of “*Access to Knowledge in Egypt: New Research on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Development*” book. Edited by **Nagla Rizk** and **Lea Shaver** and published by Bloomsbury.

The book states that “Bringing rigorous empirical research to bear on unquestioned ideologies, the collaborating authors question the conventional wisdom that more IP protection is necessarily better for innovation and development.” Please read the description and content of the book [here](#)

The BA A2K team takes pride that the pioneer study, “*Copyright in the Egyptian Law: An Analysis from a Development Perspective*” by **Dr Badrawi** and **Dr. El Saghir**, commissioned by the **BA A2K project**, was one of the references of the second chapter in the book.



## Latest Publications



### Translated Material



#### Thinking Aloud on Disclosure of Origin

What do we all mean by “disclosure of origin”?

“Disclosure of origin” has become a collective term for certain requirements to be incorporated into patent law. These requirements vary widely in terms of the weight and nature of the legal, administrative or informational burdens placed on patent applicants and owners. Accordingly, it is convenient to describe three types of disclosure requirement.

To view full Arabic version click [here](#)

*“A little knowledge that acts is worth infinitely more than much knowledge that is idle.”*

*Khalil Gibran*

### BA A2K ToolKit II

Now Available

in Arabic



### Suggested Readings



- Arab Knowledge Report 2009 -Towards Productive Intercommunication for Knowledge

The report in [Arabic](#)

The report in [English](#)

- Imagining a Traditional Knowledge Commons
- Raika Bio-Cultural Protocol

Please visit our new and improved Suggested Readings page [here](#)



#### Contact Details

Bibliotheca Alexandrina  
Legal Department  
P.O. Box 138, Chatby,  
Alexandria 21526, Egypt.

#### Project Leader

Hala Essalmawi  
Phone: (+203) 4839999  
Ext:1153  
Fax: (+203) 4820452  
Email: [a2k@bibalex.org](mailto:a2k@bibalex.org)

#### Project Officer

Ghada Ossama Deghedey  
Email:  
[Ghada.Deghedey@bibalex.org](mailto:Ghada.Deghedey@bibalex.org)

