

Introducing accessibility in 2023: a repository / CRIS perspective

euroCRIS webinar on web accessibility 16 Oct 2023

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<https://purl.org/g3om4c>

Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) & WCAG 1.0

No proliferation of user devices!

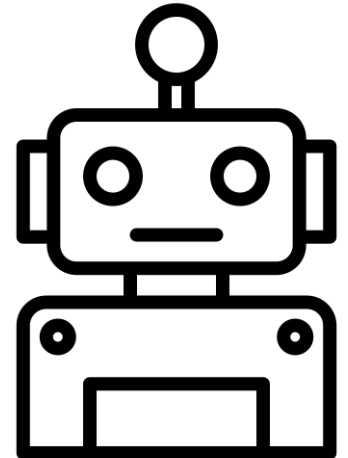


W3C HTML 4.0 compliance

Bobby

2023

- Few websites / apps can claim 100% accessibility
 - 100% impossible to achieve...?
- Ethos towards making services 'more accessible'
- For repositories...
 - Heavy lifting: technical & socio-technical
 - But BIG wins beyond human accessibility



European pe

- Significant change within
 - EU Web Accessibility Directive
 - ‘Directive (EU) 2016/2102’ - summary
- Public sector websites and mobile applications
 - Encompasses most (all?!) repositories
 - Other services in repository orbit
- Enshrined in local jurisdiction

The screenshot displays the UK Legislation website (legislation.gov.uk) for the 'The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018'. The page is titled 'The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018' and is identified as 'UK Statutory Instruments' with number '2018 No. 852'. It includes a 'Table of Contents' section with links to 'Table of Contents', 'Content', 'Explanatory Memorandum', and 'More Resources'. The 'What Version' section shows 'Latest available (Revised)' and 'Original (As made)'. The 'Status' section states 'This is the original version (as it was originally made)'. The 'Opening Options' section is also visible. The 'Table of Contents' lists the following sections: 'Introductory Text', 'PART 1 General' (including 1. Citation and commencement, 2. Interpretation, 3. Application), 'PART 2 Obligations for public sector bodies' (including 4. Application of Part 2, 5. Obligation to make websites and mobile applications accessible, 6. Disproportionate burden assessment, 7. Accessibility statement), 'PART 3 Presumed conformity' (including 8. (1) A website of a public sector body will be...), 'PART 4 Monitoring and reporting' (including 9. (1) The Minister for the Cabinet Office must monitor the...), 'PART 5 Enforcement' (including 10. Enforcement bodies for the obligations in Part 2, 11. Failure to make a reasonable adjustment, 12. Notification and request for information, 13. Accessibility statements: assessment), 'Signature', 'SCHEDULE Reporting requirements', and 'Explanatory Note'.

EU Web Accessibility Directive

- Directive expectations
 - Content to be ‘perceivable, operable, understandable and robust’
 - 4 Principles of WCAG
 - Reducing barriers for persons with disabilities (and developers)
- Technical expectations
 - Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) – always evolving
 - BUT directive goes beyond WCAG
 - Accessibility statements, feedback mechanism for users, monitoring of compliance by local bodies / member states

Relevant exemptions

- Directive exemptions
 - There are many – worth checking!
 - ‘Office file formats’ published prior to September 2018
 - *Łukasz, Michał, Antoni – PDF documents*
 - *Unique challenges...*
 - ‘Archive’ definitions surrounding website content
 - ‘Heritage collections’

WCAG Principle 1 & 2

- **Perceivable**

- Serving text alternatives (see: Web Accessibility Initiative – Accessible Rich Internet Applications (WAI-ARIA))
- Adaptability of content (meaningful sequence, repurpose, etc.)
- Distinguish (colour, contrast, resizing text)

- **Operable**

- Keyboard accessible
- Easily navigable (pages properly structured, obvious link purposes, skip blocks, etc.)

WCAG Principle 3 & 4

- **Understandable**

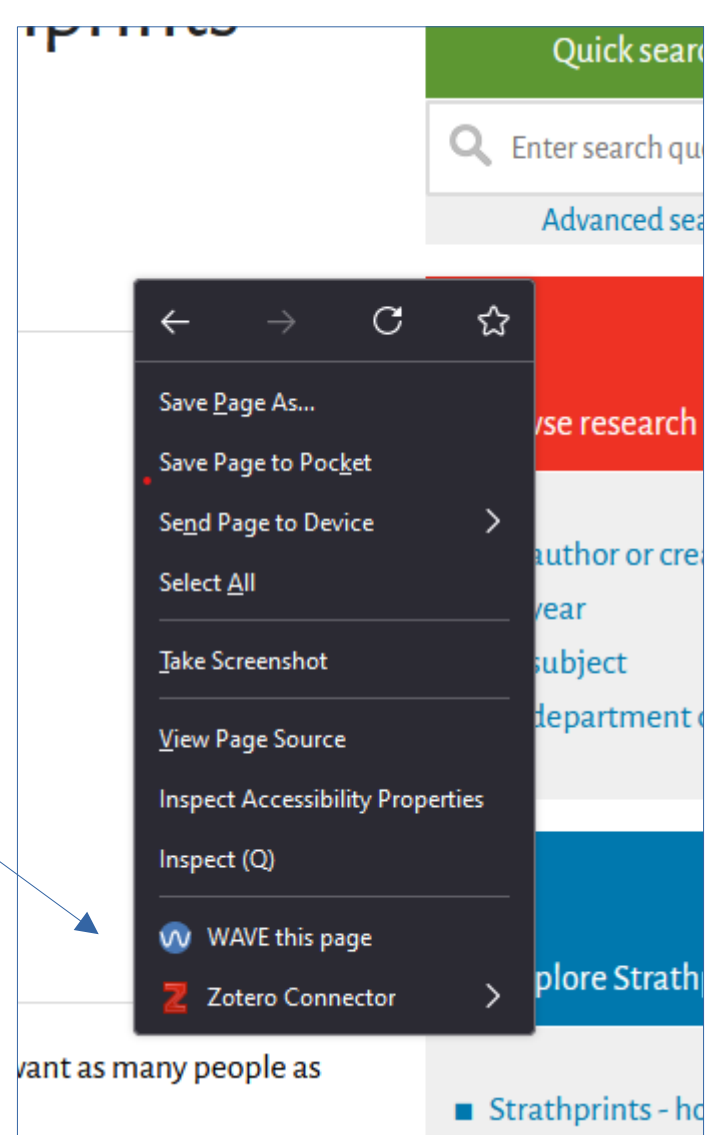
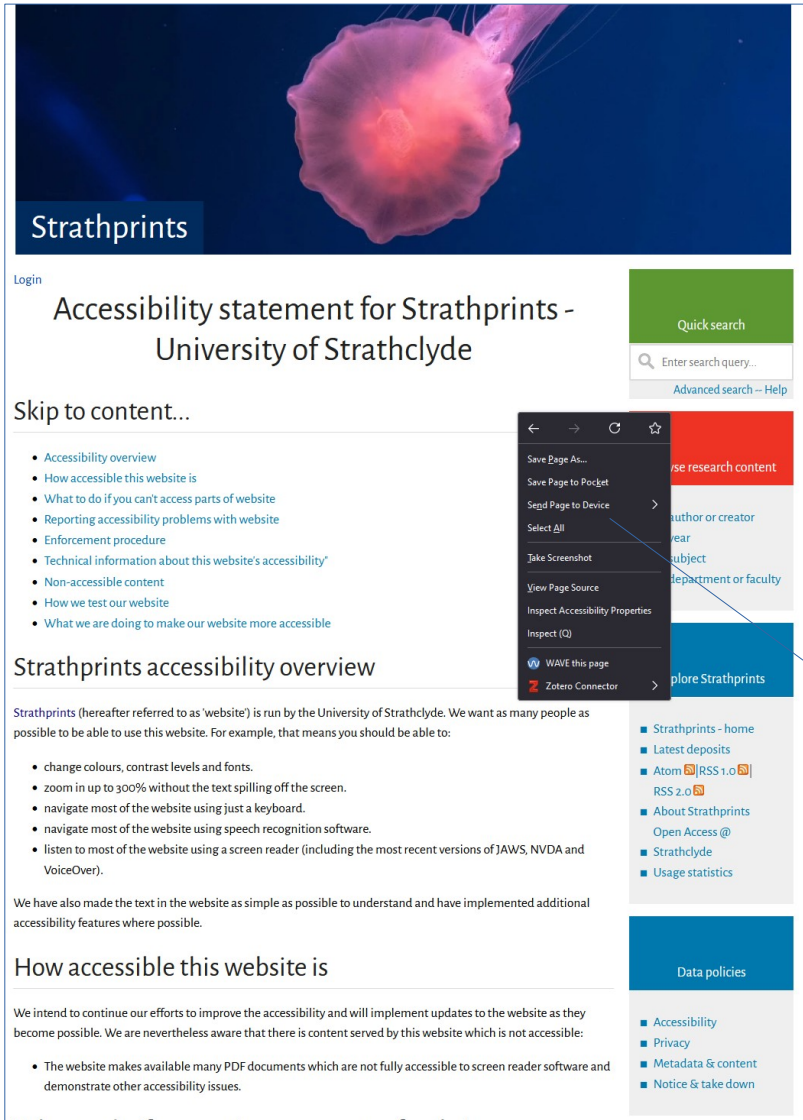
- Readable (think: language used, abbreviations)
- Input assistance (e.g. error identification / prevention, help, etc.)

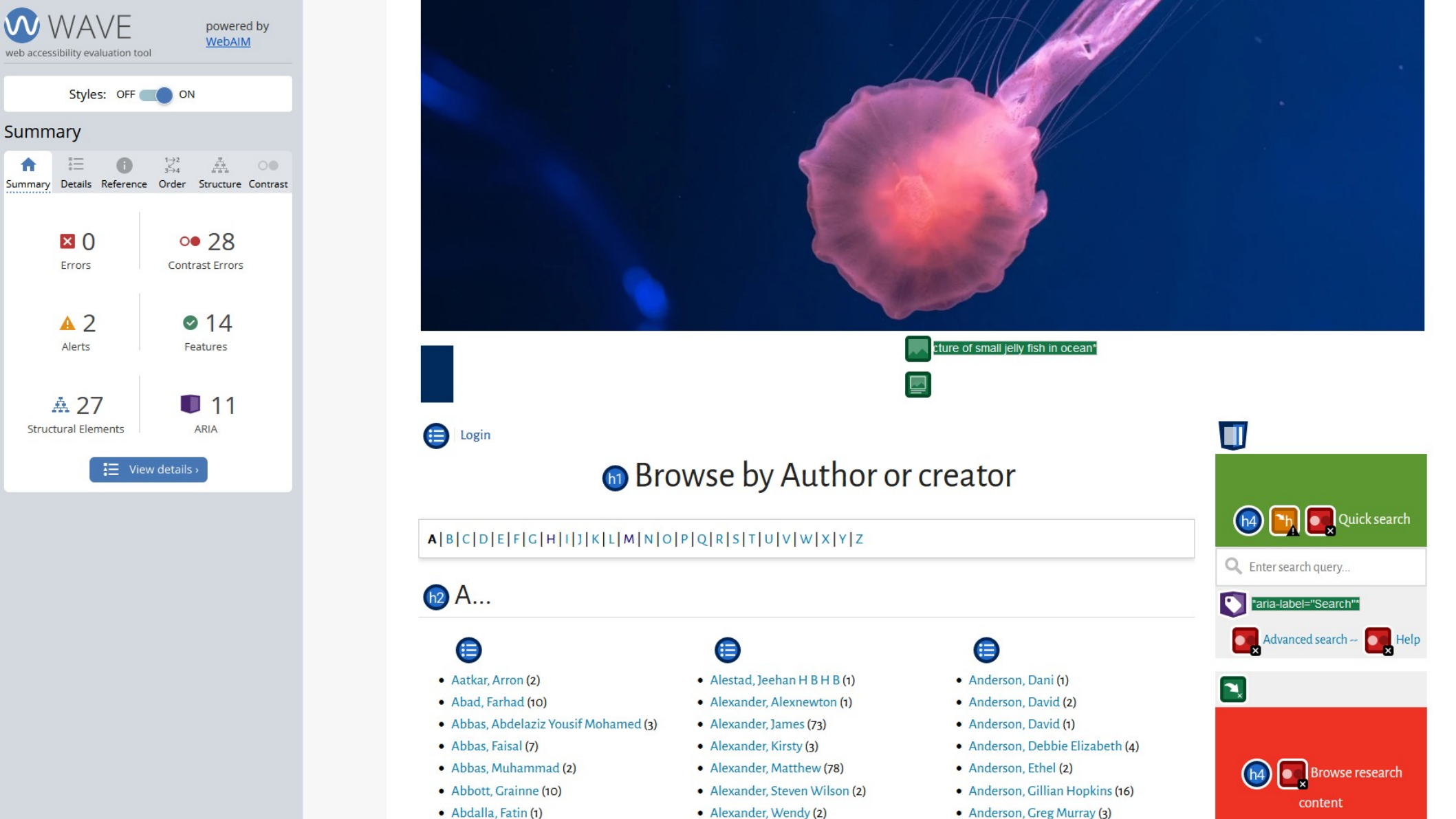
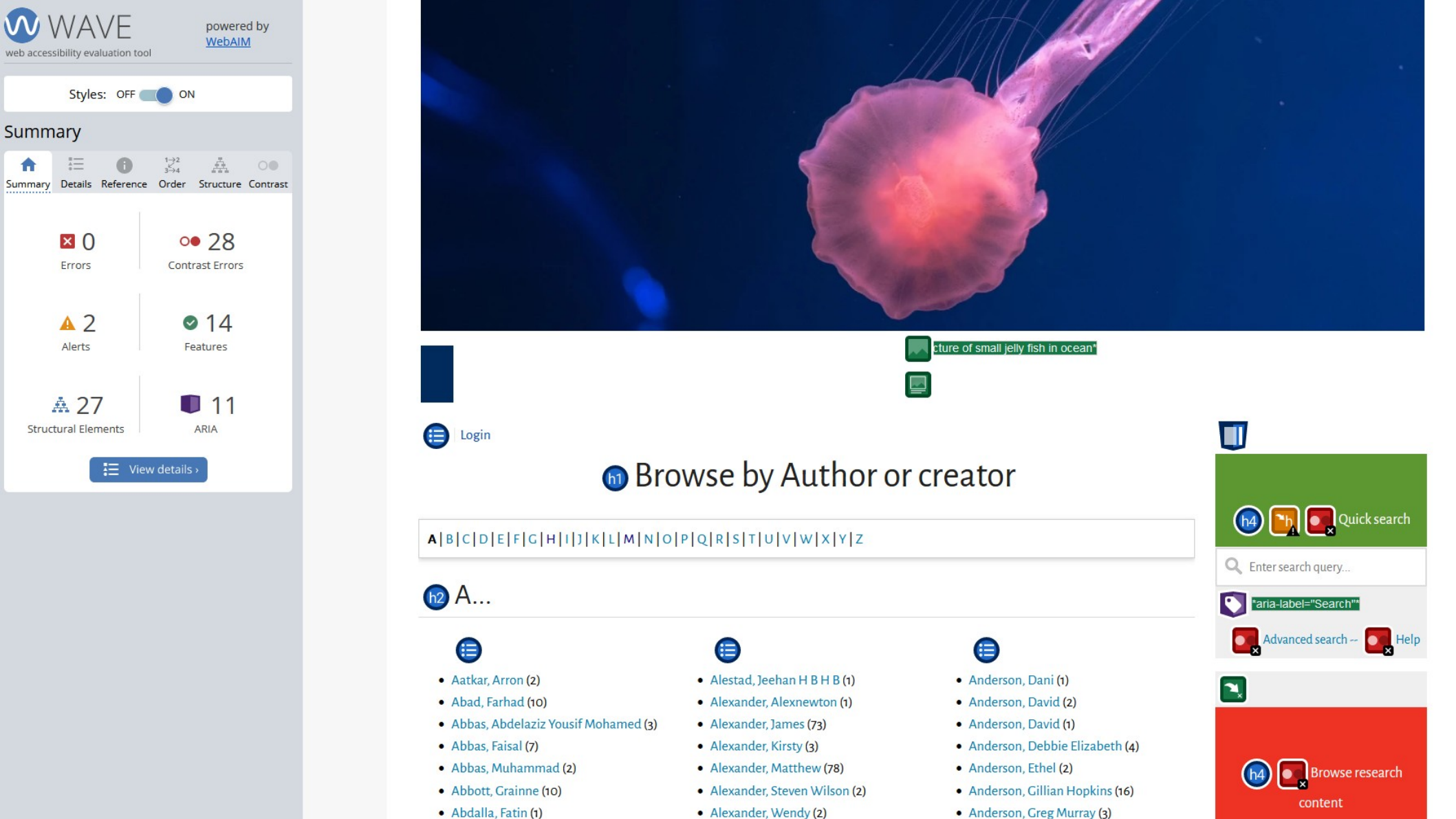
- **Robust**

- The easiest principle from a repository front-end perspective?
- Well formed mark-up, CSS, etc.

Where to start?

- Understand the WCAG principles
- Repository evaluation and corrective actions
 - [WAVE Web Accessibility Evaluation Tools](#)
 - Browser plugin alongside code inspection
 - Not a panacea – only helps to solve UI; **not** documents
- Consider accessibility statement afterwards
 - Accessibility an on-going process
 - Remember: 100% unachievable





Thanks

- Quick questions before Łukasz...?