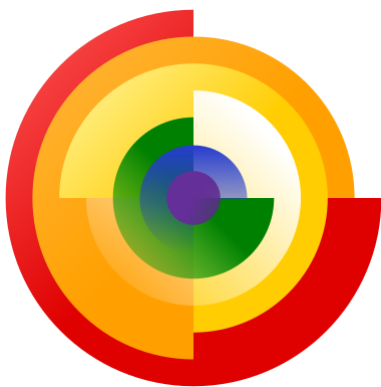


Definition of Free Cultural Works

The **Definition of Free Cultural Works** is a definition of free content from 2006. The project evaluates and recommends compatible free content licenses.



Definition of Free Cultural Works logo, selected in a

logo contest in 2006.^[1]

History

The Open Content Project by David A. Wiley in 1998 was a predecessor project which defined open content. In 2003 Wiley joined the Creative Commons as "Director of Educational Licenses" and announced the Creative Commons and their licenses as successor to his *Open Content project*.^{[2][3]}

Therefore, Creative Commons' Erik Möller^[4] in collaboration with Richard Stallman, Lawrence Lessig, Benjamin Mako Hill,^[4] Angela Beesley,^[4] and others started in 2006 the Free Cultural Works

project for defining free content. The first draft of the *Definition of Free Cultural Works* was published 2 April 2006.^[5] The 1.0 and 1.1 versions were published in English and translated into several languages.^[6]

The *Definition of Free Cultural Works* is used by the Wikimedia Foundation.^[7] In 2008, the Attribution and Attribution-ShareAlike Creative Commons licenses were marked as "Approved for Free Cultural Works".^[8]

Following in June 2009, Wikipedia migrated to use two licenses: the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike as main license, additionally

to the previously used GNU Free Documentation License (which was made compatible^[9]).^[10] An improved license compatibility with the greater free content ecosystem was given as reason for the license change.^{[11][12]}

In October 2014 the Open Knowledge Foundation's Open Definition 2.0 for *Open Works* and *Open Licenses* described "open" as synonymous to the definition of free in the "Definition of Free Cultural Works" (and also the Open Source Definition and Free Software Definition).^[13] A distinct difference is the focus given to the public domain and that it focuses also on the accessibility

("Open access") and the readability ("open formats"). The same three creative commons licenses are recommended for open content (CC BY, CC BY-SA, and CC0^{[14][15][16]}) as additionally three for open data intended own licenses, the *Open Data Commons Public Domain Dedication and Licence* (PDDL), the *Open Data Commons Attribution License* (ODC-BY) and the Open Data Commons Open Database License (ODbL).

"Free cultural works" approved licenses

- Against DRM

- BSD-like non-copyleft licenses
- CERN Open Hardware License
- CC0
- Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY)
- Creative Commons Attribution
ShareAlike (CC BY-SA)
- Design Science License
- Free Art License
- FreeBSD Documentation License
- GNU Free Documentation License
(without invariant sections)^[17]
- GNU General Public License
- MirOS Licence
- MIT License
- Open Publication License

References

1. *TrueLogo contest* on *freedomdefined.org* (2006)
2. *OpenContent is officially closed. And that's just fine.* on *opencontent.org* (30 June 2003, archived)
3. *Creative Commons Welcomes David Wiley as Educational Use License Project Lead* by matt (June 23rd, 2003)
4. *"History - Definition of Free Cultural Works"* . *Freedomdefined.org*. Retrieved 2012-11-14.
5. *"Revision history of "Definition" - Definition of Free Cultural Works"* . *Freedomdefined.org*. Retrieved 2012-11-14.

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7. *"Resolution:Licensing policy"* . *Wikimedia Foundation. Retrieved 2012-11-14.*
8. *"Approved for Free Cultural Works"* .
Creative Commons. 2009-07-24.
Retrieved 2012-11-14.
9. *"FDL 1.3 FAQ"* . *Gnu.org. Retrieved 2011-11-07.*
10. *"Resolution:Licensing update approval - Wikimedia Foundation"* .
11. *Wikipedia + CC BY-SA = Free Culture Win!*
on creativecommons.org by Mike Linksvayer, June 22nd, 2009
12. *Licensing update rolled out in all Wikimedia wikis* on *wikimedia.org* by *Erik Moeller on June 30th, 2009* *"Perhaps*

the most significant reason to choose CC-BY-SA as our primary content license was to be compatible with many of the other admirable endeavors out there to share and develop free knowledge"

13. *Open Definition 2.1* on opendefinition.org

14. *licenses* on opendefinition.com

15. *Creative Commons 4.0 BY and BY-SA licenses approved conformant with the Open Definition* by Timothy Vollmer on creativecommons.org (December 27th, 2013)

16. *Open Definition 2.0 released* by Timothy Vollmer on creativecommons.org (October 7th, 2014)

17. *licenses* on freedomdefined.org

External links

- Definition of Free Cultural Works on freedomdefined.org
- 2006 Announcement on freedomdefined.org
- Understanding Free Cultural Works on creativecommons.org
- Free content defined on WikiEducator
- FreeCulturalWorks on DeviantArt

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"https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Definition_of_Free_Cultural_Works&oldid=1018179308"

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