

AUTHORS' RIGHTS

38. “Controlled Digital Lending” (CDL)

Proposed by the [National Writers Union, USA \(NWU\)](#)

The World Congress of the [International Federation of Journalists](#), meeting in Tunis from 11th to 14th June 2019,

Disturbed that the Internet Archive and other entities have digitized hundreds of thousands of copyrighted books from library collections, discards, and donations, and are continuing to digitize more than 1,000 books every day, and are distributing the complete text and illustrations of these books as page images on the World Wide Web, without any permission or remuneration of authors;

Noting that books published in many countries are already included among those that have been scanned and are being made available worldwide in this way;

Aware of the statement and white paper issued by the Internet Archive and others defending this practice as “Controlled Digital Lending” (CDL);

Believing that Controlled Digital Lending, as described in this statement and white paper and as practiced by the Internet Archive, is a flagrant violation of the copyright;

Recognising that journalists are among the victims of Controlled Digital Lending;

Mindful that unremunerated and unauthorized copying and worldwide distribution of digital copies over the Internet by the Internet Archive or other platforms, in the U.S. or any other country, competes with and deprives authors of revenues from legitimate copying, distribution, and revenue sources worldwide;

Concerned that Controlled Digital Lending could be expanded from books to newspapers and periodicals, resulting in even greater harm to journalists’ incomes;

1) **Affirms** the “[Appeal from the Victims of Controlled Digital Lending](#)” and the “[FAQ on Controlled Digital Lending](#)” initiated by the National Writers Union;

2) **Demands** an immediate halt to the practice of Controlled Digital Lending;

3) **Calls on** the Internet Archive and other practitioners of Controlled Digital Lending to recognize that their activities are interfering with the rights of authors, including journalists, and with our ability to earn a living from our work;

4) **Appeals** to archivists and librarians to engage in a dialogue with authors on how to enable and create digital libraries in better ways that respect authors’ rights;

5) **Directs** the Secretariat to send copies of this resolution to the Internet Archive, the initiators of the Statement and White Paper on Controlled Digital Lending, the American Library Association, and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).