

## **Access to Books for the Visually Impaired and the Future of User Rights**

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The international community recently adopted the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh Treaty). The Marrakesh Treaty was adopted to improve the unsatisfactory access to copyright works for the visually impaired. Moreover, it was aimed at addressing the human rights responsibilities of states towards their print disabled population.

Lack of access to books for the visually impaired and others with print disabilities is a prime example of conflict between copyright law and human rights law. The Marrakesh Treaty can provide policy makers with a framework on how to consider and address the effects of copyright law on human rights of the visually impaired. This paper discusses the current status of the Marrakesh Treaty in the Asian Pacific region. It also identifies the implications of the Marrakesh Treaty and its surrounding discourse for the future of the interface of copyright and human rights, particularly regarding user rights.