Copying from newspapers and magazines

You must comply with UK copyright law when copying material in the SOAS Library. If you use our self-service photocopiers, you are responsible for ensuring that you do not infringe copyright. This poster provides general guidance on how to copy legally from newspapers and magazines.

1. Copying from newspapers

In most cases, newspaper articles can only be copied by Library users under the concept of “fair dealing” set out in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. For “fair dealing” to apply, you must ensure that:

- **You produce no more than a single copy for your own personal use.** Multiple copying from newspapers is not permitted under “fair dealing”.
- **The copying is for non-commercial private study or research.** E.g. if you are an external user carrying out research for a fee or for your employer, you cannot copy from a newspaper under “fair dealing”.
- **You acknowledge the source of the copy.** E.g. by recording on the photocopy the name of the article’s author, the title of the article, the name of the newspaper and the date of publication (if not already included), and citing these details in any subsequent quotation.
- **You do not copy an “unfair” proportion of the newspaper.** There are no set limits, but we strongly recommend that you do not copy more than a single article from a single issue of a newspaper.

2. Copying from magazines

SOAS students and staff (but not external users) may copy extracts from magazines under SOAS’s licence with the Copyright Licensing Agency. One article or up to 5% (whichever is greater) from a single issue of a magazine may be copied. Only magazines published in the UK and certain other countries may be copied, and other restrictions apply: see our main copyright poster for further details.

All Library users may copy extracts from magazines under “fair dealing”, including magazines not covered by the CLA licence. The conditions outlined above for newspapers should be followed.

3. Further information

For further information on copyright and the CLA licence, please contact the Data Management Officer (email to copyright@soas.ac.uk or telephone 020 7898 4150).

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