PeerJ

Accessibility Conformance Report - International Edition

Name of Product/Version

PeerJ | peerj.com | peerj.org

Report Date

25 June 2025

Product Description

PeerJ is an open access, peer-reviewed publisher of scientific journals covering a wide range of disciplines including biology, medicine, computer science, chemistry, and environmental science. Founded in 2012, PeerJ emphasizes accessibility, transparency, and community-driven publishing.

Contact Information

support@peerj.com - Peerl accessibility team

Notes

This report supersedes all previous versions. Based on Voluntary Accessibility Product Template (VPAT®) Version 2.5, International Edition. The findings in this report are from our third-party automated tool from Siteimprove, which looks at a wide selection of public facing pages representative of the product. The results of the automated tests were reviewed by our Senior UX Product Designer and Accessibility Officer. Pages behind a log-in wall will have an automated review in Q4 2025. A small amount of manual testing has been carried out, with further manual testing scheduled for Q4 2025 - a selection of pages representative of the product will be comprehensively tested by our Senior UX Product Designer.

[&]quot;Voluntary Product Accessibility Template" and "VPAT" are registered service marks of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)

Evaluation Methods Used

Accessibility testing tools: Siteimprove.com with site target set to WCAG 2.2 Levels A and AA, with ARIA and accessibility best practices included, to identify issues and potential issues. Accessibility Insights for Web (Chrome Extension), and accessibility bookmarklets have also been used to support manual testing. **Assistive technologies:** Non-Visual Desktop Access (NVDA) screen reader, as well as exclusive use of the keyboard to navigate site content and test user interface functionality.

Laptop: Microsoft Edge 114.0.1823.58 and Chrome Version 137.0.7151.120 on a Macbook Pro laptop running OSX 15.5 (24F74) **Resize display settings:** 1280×1024 and 1280×768 , with scaling at 100%, and browser set to 200%.

iReflow display settings: 1280 × 1024, with scaling at 100%, and browser set to 400%.

Mobile: iPhone 11, running iOS 18.5 and Chrome Version 137.0.7151.107. Used for checking Orientation with locked and unlocked screen rotation settings.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included in report	Not included in report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0	Levels A and AA	Level AAA
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Levels A and AA	Level AAA
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2	Levels A and AA	Level AAA
Revised Section 508 standards published January 18, 2017 and corrected January 22, 2018	Yes	n/a
EN 301 549 Accessibility requirements for ICT products and services - V3.1.1 (2019-11) and EN 301 549 Accessibility requirements for ICT products and services - V3.2.1 (2021-03)	Yes	n/a

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports**: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- Partially Supports: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support**: The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- Not Applicable: The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated**: The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can only be used in WCAG Level AAA criteria.

WCAG 2.2 Report

Tables 1 and 2 also document conformance with:

- EN 301 549: Chapter 9 Web, Sections 10.1-10.4 of Chapter 10 Non-Web documents, and Sections 11.1-11.4 and 11.8.2 of Chapter 11 Non-Web Software (open and closed functionality), and Sections 12.1.2 and 12.2.4 of Chapter 12 Documentation
- Revised Section 508: Chapter 5 501.1 Scope, 504.2 Content Creation or Editing, and Chapter 6 602.3 Electronic Support Documentation.

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.2 Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the <u>WCAG 2.2 Conformance Requirements</u>.

Visual summary of WCAG 2.2 compliance

Supports = green. Partially supports = orange. Not supported = pink. Not applicable = grey. To be tested/confirmed = purple. Level A, 32 criteria: Supports × 8. Partially supports × 8. Not supported × 1. Not applicable × 5. To be tested/confirmed × 10. Level AA, 24 criteria: Supports × 4. Partially supports × 5. Not supported × 2. Not applicable × 1. To be tested/confirmed × 12.

Principle	Р	Р	Р	P	0	0	0	0	0	U	U	U	R
Guideline	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1
Level A	1.1.1	1.2.1	1.3.1	1.4.1	2.1.1	2.2.1	2.3.1	2.4.1	2.5.1	3.1.1	3.2.1	3.3.1	4.1.1
Level A	n/a	1.2.2	1.3.2	1.4.2	2.1.2	2.2.2	n/a	2.4.2	2.5.2	n/a	3.2.2	3.3.2	4.1.2
Level A	n/a	1.2.3	1.3.3	n/a	2.1.4	n/a	n/a	2.4.3	2.5.3	n/a	3.2.6	3.3.7	n/a
Level A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.4.4	2.5.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Level AA	n/a	1.2.4	1.3.4	1.4.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.4.5	2.5.7	3.1.2	3.2.3	3.3.3	4.1.3
Level AA	n/a	1.2.5	1.3.5	1.4.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.4.6	2.5.8	n/a	3.2.4	3.3.4	n/a
Level AA	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.4.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.3.8	n/a
Level AA	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4.10	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.4.11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Level AA	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4.11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Level AA	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4.12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Level AA	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4.13	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes: the Conformance Level and Remarks and Explanations are evaluated for the Website only. Electronic documents, Software, and Authoring Tool are not applicable.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.1.1 (Web) 10.1.1.1 (Non-web document) 	Partially Supports	Some non-text content that is presented to the user has a text alternative that serves the equivalent purpose. Issues:
 11.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.1.1.2 (Closed Functionality Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		 730 occurrences (86 pages) of images missing a text alternative. Examples: <u>Factsheet thumbnails</u>, <u>Editor profiles</u>, <u>PeerJ logos</u>, <u>Journal overlay</u> <u>thumbnails</u>
Revised Section 508		Remediation Q1 2026.
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria	Does Not Support	Audio-only content is also conveyed in text. Video content with no audio track is also described in text and/or audio.
 9.1.2.1 (Web) 10.1.2.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.1.2.1 and 11.1.2.1.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		 Videos in peerj.com/hubs do not have transcripts available. Remediation in Q4 2025.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.2 (Web) 10.1.2.2 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Supports	Captions are provided for all prerecorded audio content. Where audio is a media alternative for text, it is clearly labelled as such. Video content is hosted in YouTube and closed captions are provided.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.3 (Web) 10.1.2.3 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.3.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.3.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) Revised Section 508	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that actions, descriptions, and other important non-audio content in videos are described in captions, a separate audio track, or a text-based alternative like a screenplay. All videos uploaded to YouTube.
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.1 (Web) 10.1.3.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially Supports	Information, structure and relationships between content that is visual can be programmatically determined via HTML or ARIA; or are available by text. Issues: Two Editor Profiles have empty <h3> headings tags. Jonathan Tennant and David Germain Eight pages have empty role="list" container elements. Example: Policies and Procedures, Maurizio Cavallini Two pages with data tables incorrectly coded. Prognostic value of neoindices and Retrospective analysis of estrogen Remediation Q4 2025. ARIA best practice: 99 pages with text not included in an ARIA landmark. 15 pages to check if landmarks with the same name serve same purpose. Remediation Q1 2026.</h3>

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A) continued.	Partially Supports	 Accessibility best practice issues: 31 pages with unstructured headings one or more heading levels skipped. Three pages missing headings. 12 pages that do not start with a h1. 19 pages with content missing after heading. Two pages with improper use of preformatted text element. Remediation Q1 2026.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.2 (Web) 10.1.3.2 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that where alternative style sheets are used, or other formatting changes applied, the logical reading order can be programmatically determined and understood by assistive technologies.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.3 (Web) 10.1.3.3 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that instructions for understanding and operating content does not solely rely on characteristics such as color, size, visual location, orientation, sound, or shape.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.1 (Web) 10.1.4.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Partially Supports	Color is not the only visual means of conveying information, indicating and action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. Issues: 52 occurrences (16 pages) with links that are not clearly identifiable. They rely on a color that has an insufficient contrast ratio (2.01:1) and provide no
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		secondary visual indicator, such as underlining. Example: Spread the Word , Overview and Features . Remediation Q4 2025.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	No auto-starting audio on any product.
Also applies to:		
EN 301 549 Criteria		
 9.1.4.2 (Web) 10.1.4.2 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		
Revised Section 508		
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.1.1 (Web) 10.2.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.1.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	All functionality is operable using the keyboard only. There are no specific timings to complete individual keystrokes. Notes: Automated accessibility report is showing that the Instagram grid feed is not accessible with the keyboard. However, manual testing shows this can be reached using the keyboard, and tabbed through, with up and down arrows used to scroll. Content on the feed is announced by NVDA screen reader. Example: Life and Environment.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.1.2 (Web) 10.2.1.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.1.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that there are no situations where you enter a modal with the keyboard and can't get back to where you were. Users are advised of the exit method where it is not a standard exit method (Arrow, Tab, Esc).
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria	Not Applicable	There are no keyboard shortcuts used on the site.
 9.2.1.4 (Web) 10.2.1.4 (Non-web document) 11.2.1.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.1.4.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 - Does not apply 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Not Applicable	There is no functionality on the site that requires a time limit.
Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria		requires a time innit.
 9.2.2.1 (Web) 10.2.2.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.2.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		
Revised Section 508		
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.2.2 (Web) 10.2.2.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.2.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Partially Supports	Moving, blinking, or scrolling information that (1) starts automatically (2) lasts more than five seconds (3) is presented alongside other content; can be paused, stopped or hidden. Auto-updating information that (1) starts automatically (2) is presented alongside other content; can either be paused, stopped, and hidden – or have the update frequency amended.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		Issues:Disappearing toasts used on various pages.Remediation Q1 2026

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	There is no flashing content on the site.
Also applies to:		
EN 301 549 Criteria		
 9.2.3.1 (Web) 10.2.3.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.3.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.3.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		
Revised Section 508		
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.1 (Web) 10.2.4.1 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.2.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.2.4.1 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs 	Partially Supports	The first clickable item on the page is a "skip to main content link" moving focus directly to the main content. Landmarks define core parts of the page to support quick navigation with assistive technologies. Issues: Two pages missing a "skip to main content" link. Internet of Things and Agricultural Science. 112 pages to manually check and confirm if there is a "skip to main content" link in place. Remediation Q1 2026.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.2 (Web) 10.2.4.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.2 (Open Functionality Software) - Does not apply 11.2.4.2 (Closed Software) - Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Supports	Each page has a unique title element that describes what's on that page, to lets users know where they are and what type of content to expect.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.3 (Web) 10.2.4.3 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Not Evaluated	Further testing schedule for Q4 2025 to confirm that focusable elements receive focus in an order that preserves meaning and operability. When a keyboard user tabs through a page, the order goes from top to bottom and left to right, as you would read the page.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.4 (Web) 10.2.4.4 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.4 (Closed Software 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool)	Partially Supports	A link's destination is clear from either the link text itself or the surrounding sentence context. Issues: • 501 links (across 40 pages) missing a text alternative. This is mostly PeerJ logos, speech bubble markers, thumbnails, and social media feeds. Example: Predictive maintenance in Industry, How long is a piece of loop?, Infographics, Computer Science. • Remediation Q4 2025.
• 602.3 (Support Docs)		 Note: 114 pages have two or more links in the same context with matching link text. Manual testing required (793 links) to confirm the matching links go to the same destination.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.1 (Web) 10.2.5.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Not Applicable	No actions carried out require using a gesture (swiping, pinching, and so on) or drawing.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.2 (Web) 10.2.5.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Supports	Functions that use a single pointer are completed when the user releases the pointer. For example, pressing a button, is triggered on mouse-up.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.3 (Web) 10.2.5.3 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.3.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.3.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Partially Supports	User interface components with labels that include text or images of text, have a corresponding accessible name that begins with the text that is presented visually. Issues: Six occurrences of visible label and accessible name not matching. Example: "24 total citations on Dimensions" vs "24 24 total citations 146 relative citation ratio". Remediation Q4 2025.
 2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.4 (Web) 10.2.5.4 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 - Does not apply 	Supports	There is no reliance on device motion, like shaking or tilting, to carry out an action.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.1.1 (Web) 10.3.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.3.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.1.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Supports	The page language is identified using the lang attribute in the HTML element (en). English, non-region specific.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.1 (Web) 10.3.2.1 (Non-web document) 11.3.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.2.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing due Q4 2025 to confirm that when a user interface component receives focus, it does not initiate unexpected changes.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.2 On Input (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.2 (Web) 10.3.2.2 (Non-web document) 11.3.2.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that there are no unexpected changes of context on user input.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Supports	The placement of help details and options is consistent across the site and easy to find. Contact details, self-help FAQs, and social media links, are consistently found in the footer. The contact page includes email addresses and postal address.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.1 (Web) 10.3.3.1 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that errors are automatically detected and clearly indicated and described to the user. Error messages are provided as text and announced for assistive devices.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.2 (Web) 10.3.3.2 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that help is provided to prevent form errors – sometimes the label is enough on its own, elsewhere additional hint text or instructions are provided.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Supports	Forms do not ask users to enter the same information more than once in a single session; unless the information is essential, no longer valid, or for security purposes.

Criteria WGAG 2.2 Level A	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) Applies to: WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 - Always answer 'Supports' WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply EN 301 549 Criteria 9.4.1.1 (Web) 10.4.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.4.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.4.1.1.2 (Closed Software) - Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Not Applicable	Note: this criterion has been removed from WCAG 2.2. HTML and browsers have improved at handling coding errors. And, assistive technology no longer parses the code directly, but now relies on the browser to do it, making this guideline outdated. Most issues it covered will now fall under WCAG 1.3.1 Info and Relationships or WCAG 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value criteria.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)

Also applies to:

EN 301 549 Criteria

- 9.4.1.2 (Web)
- 10.4.1.2 (Non-web document)
- 11.4.1.2.1 (Open Functionality Software)
- 11.4.1.2.2 (Closed Software) Does not apply
- 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool)
- 12.1.2 (Product Docs)
- 12.2.4 (Support Docs)

Revised Section 508

- 501 (Web) (Software)
- 504.2 (Authoring Tool)
- 602.3 (Support Docs)

Partially Supports

User interface elements and components have the right names, roles, states, properties and values so they're recognized correctly by assistive technologies.

Issues:

- Eight form fields missing a label search fields and Feedback free text fields. Examples: <u>Peerl</u>, <u>Data Reuse</u>.
- 140 occurrences of buttons missing a text alternative. Mostly <u>Search</u> <u>magnifier icon</u>, also <u>Pop-up modal</u> <u>close button</u>, <u>Contents button</u>.
- 15 occurrences of iframes missing a text alternative to summarize the content/purpose. Examples: <u>Instagram feed</u>, <u>Journal reading</u> <u>window</u>, <u>Purple rectangle</u>.
- One page with multiple iframes with the same text alternative. <u>Pricing</u>.
- 19 occurrences of elements that have a role that implies they should be hidden, but have keyboard focus.
 Example: <u>FAQ buttons</u>, <u>pop-up close</u> button.
- Remediation Q1 2026.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	There is no live media hosted on the site.
Also applies to:		
EN 301 549 Criteria		
 9.1.2.4 (Web) 10.1.2.4 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		
Revised Section 508		
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.5 (Web) 10.1.2.5 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.5 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.5 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q32025 to confirm that audio description is provided for all pre-recorded video content. Actions, descriptions, and other important non-audio content is described in captions or a separate audio track.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.4 (Web) 10.1.3.4 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Not evaluated	The content of the site does not restrict its view and operation to a single-display orientation (portrait / landscape), unless a specific display orientation is essential. When rotating a device from portrait to landscape the site remains readable and usable. Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm external user views remain readable and usable when phone undergoes re-orientation.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.5 (Web) 10.1.3.5 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.5.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.5.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 - Does not apply	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that the purpose of form fields can be identified by the browser, so that auto-complete suggestions can be offered, making it easier to fill out forms and reduce the need for manual typing.

1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)

Also applies to:

EN 301 549 Criteria

- 9.1.4.3 (Web)
- 10.1.4.3 (Non-web document)
- 11.1.4.3 (Open Functionality Software)
- 11.1.4.3 (Closed Software)
- 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool)
- 12.1.2 (Product Docs)
- 12.2.4 (Support Docs)

Revised Section 508

- 501 (Web) (Software)
- 504.2 (Authoring Tool)
- 602.3 (Support Docs)

Partially Supports

Internal note: see Siteimprove for full list of contrast issues. The visual presentation of body text and images of text has a ratio of at least 4.5:1. Large-scale text and images of large-scale text have a ratio of at least 3:1. Text that is part of a logo or brand name has no minimum contrast requirement.

Issues:

- 12,013 occurrences (114 pages) of insufficient color contrast. A further 2,659 that require manual testing to confirm contrast ratio. Some are as low as 1.97:1. A few examples:
- Cookie banner grey text (838391) on grey (EDEFF5). Ratio 3.25:1.
- Breadcrumb blue text (2A85E8), on white. Ratio 3.74:1.
- Subject blue filters (04A7FC), white text. Ratio 2.65:1.
- Submit article blue (5586E3), white text, or blue text (4886E3) on grey (2F2F2F). Ratios 3.56:1 and 3.69:1.
- Link blue text (2A85E8/536DFE/ A2C4E5), on grey (F5F5F5/55555), or white. Ratio 3.43:1, 4.21:1 and 4.11:1.
- Revision notice orange (FFA500), white text. Ratio 1.97:1
- Remediation Q1 2026.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.4 (Web) 10.1.4.4 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.8.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Partially Supports	Text on a web page can be resized up to 200% without distorting the layout, without loss of content or functionality, except for captions and images of text. This allows users who need larger text to read comfortably without the need for additional assistive tools like screen magnifiers.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		 Two pages display clipped text when resized due to overflow: hidden 1. Contact Us 2. Homepage Remediation Q4 2025

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.5 (Web) 10.1.4.5 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.5.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.5.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that text is used to convey information, rather than images of text, except where: • The image of text can be visually customized by the user requirements. • A particular presentation of text is essential to the information being conveyed (such as text that is part of a logo or brand name).
Revised Section 508		
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.10 (Web) 10.1.4.10 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.10 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.10 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) Povised Section 508 Does not apply	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that content throughout the site is reflowable and responsive, remaining readable and usable without requiring horizontal scrolling for text or controls.
Revised Section 508 - Does not apply 1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.11 (Web) 10.1.4.11 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.11 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.11 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 - Does not apply	Partially Supports	Usable components like form fields and buttons, and graphics like pie charts and line graphs, have a minimum contrast ratio of 3:1. Issues: Content Alert green button (66BB6A), white text. Ratio 2.34:1. Blue buttons (02A7FC), white text. Ratio 2.62:1. Remediation Q1 2026.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.12 (Web) 10.1.4.12 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.12 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.12 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Supports	Users can increase letter, word, line, and paragraph spacing without cutting off content or breaking functionality. Ensuring users can make the text more readable while keeping the original page design and layout intact. The following are all supported for text throughout the website: • Line height (line spacing) to at least 1.5 times the font size; • Spacing following paragraphs to at least 2 times the font size; • Letter spacing (tracking) to at least 0.12 times the font size; • Word spacing to at least 0.16 times the font size.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.13 (Web) 10.1.4.13 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.13 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.13 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 - Does not apply	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q3 20205 to confirm that when new content appears, which has been triggered by hover or keyboard focus, such as tooltips, submenus, or pop-up, users are able to: Dismiss it. Interact with it, without it disappearing. Have enough time to read or engage with it.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.5 (Web) 10.2.4.5 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.2.4.5 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.2.4.5 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Supports	Header navigation is not the only way to get around a website; there are other ways, such as on-page links, a site-wide search, and consistent footer links.
Revised Section 508		
 501 (Web) (Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs 		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.6 (Web) 10.2.4.6 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.6 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.6 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Not Evaluated	Further testing is scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that headings are descriptive and effectively summarize sections of content. Form labels clearly describe what information is required. Buttons inform the user what will happen when they're pressed.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.7 (Web) 10.2.4.7 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.7 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.7 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially Supports	There is visible keyboard focus styling to indicate which element you're currently focused on. This may take different forms, such as to visually change the button, place a cursor bar in the text field, our outline the element. Issues: 114 pages (5,497 occurrences) to be manually checked to ensure it is clear which element has keyboard focus. Testing scheduled for Q4 2025.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that all content receiving Keyboard focus is always at least partially visible on the user's browser window, ensuring it is completely hidden by other content such as sticky headers, footers, or modals.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Does Not Support	Any action requiring dragging, such as reordering items, is also possible using buttons or other non-drag methods. Issues: Drag and drop re-ordering on /manuscripts/[ARTICLE_ID]/authors does not support non-drag interactions. Remediation Q4 2025.
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Partially Supports	Clickable elements, such as buttons, links, and icons, are at least 24 × 24 pixels in size. Interactive elements in line with text, such as sentences or paragraphs, are an exception, since the line height limits the size. Issues: 42 occurrences (21 pages) of interactive elements not meeting minimum size or spacing. Examples: Criteria links, Website links, Bullet lists. Remediation Q4 2025.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA) Also applies to:	Supports	There are no parts of the page that are in a different language to the page itself.
EN 301 549 Criteria		
 9.3.1.2 (Web) 10.3.1.2 (Non-web document) 11.3.1.2 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.3.1.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 		
Revised Section 508		
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.3 (Web) 10.3.2.3 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.3.2.3 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.3.2.3 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Supports	Navigation is consistent from page to page, ensuring familiar features like menus, search bars, and skip-to-content buttons stay in the same place as they visit different pages across the site.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs 		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.4 (Web) 10.3.2.4 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.3.2.4 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.3.2.4 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) 	Does Not Support	Components that have the same functionality within the site are identified consistently throughout the website (they always look and work the same). Issues: Search bar varies in design. Further testing in Q4 2025 to confirm other components comply. Remediation Q1 2026.
Revised Section 508		
 501 (Web) (Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs 		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.3 (Web) 10.3.3.3 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that helpful suggestions are provided to help users correct errors, and identify required fields that were not completed. This helps prevent incorrect data being submitted, users abandoning the form due to confusion and frustration about the information/format required.
 Revised Section 508 501 (Web) (Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 		

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.4 (Web) 10.3.3.4 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that important forms like a legal agreement or submitting financial information offer the opportunity to check the information entered before sending.
501 (Web) (Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)		
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that authentication is possible without cognitive challenges. Where memorization or solving puzzles are presented, there is alternative authentication method or effective support mechanism in place.

Criteria WCAG 2.2 Level AA	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.4.1.3 (Web) 10.4.1.3 (Non-web document) 11.4.1.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.4.1.3 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that status messages like form errors, success pop-ups, and cookie policy acceptance, are communicated to assistive technologies, such as screen readers.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes: Not evaluated for WCAG 2.0, 2.1, or 2.2 Level AAA conformance.

Revised Section 508 Report

Notes: n/a

Chapter 3: Functional Performance Criteria (FPC)

Notes: See Tables 1 and 2 for details on how each of the below criteria are met via WCAG standards.

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 3	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.1 Without Vision Where a visual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require user vision.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood by users without vision.
		Issues:
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		 Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 3	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.2 With Limited Vision Where a visual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that enables users to make use of limited vision.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited vision.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 1.4.5, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.2.		Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, , 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.
302.3 Without Perception of Color Where a visual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one visual mode of operation that does not require user perception of colour.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users without perception of color.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.4.		Issues:Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.4.1, 1.4.3.

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 3	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.4 Without Hearing Where there is an audible mode of operation, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require user hearing.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users without hearing.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.4, 1.3.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.3.4.		 Refer to the WCAG table entries 1.1.1, 1.2.1.
302.5 With Limited Hearing Where there is an audible mode of operation, there is at least one mode of operation that enables uses to make use of limited hearing.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited hearing. Issues:
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.4, 1.3.3 1.4.2, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.3.4.		• Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1.
302.6 Without Speech Where speech is used for input, control, or operation, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require user speech.	Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users without speech.
WCAG functional performance criteria: n/a		

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 3	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.7 With Limited Manipulation Where a manual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous manual operations.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited manipulation.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.2.1, 3.2.4, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.
302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength Where a manual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that is operable with limited reach and limited strength.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited reach and strength.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.2.1, 3.2.4, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 3	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by
There are features that make the site simpler and easier to use by individuals with limited cognitive, language, and learning abilities.		users with limited cognitive, language, and learning abilities.
		Issues:
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 1.2.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.5, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		 Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.

Chapter 4: Hardware

Notes: Not applicable. This is a website and does not include hardware to evaluate.

Chapter 5: Software

Notes: Not applicable. This is a website and does not include software to evaluate.

Chapter 6: Support Documentation and Services

Notes: n/a

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 6	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
601.1 Scope	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 6	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
602 Support Documentation	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required
602.2 Accessibility and Compatibility Features Documentation lists and explains how to use the accessibility and compatibility features; includes guidance for features that are built-in features, and compatible with assistive technologies.	Supports	Accessibility statement: peerj.com/accessibility Help Centre: peerj.com/help/
602.3 Electronic Support Documentation Documentation in electronic format, including webbased self-service support, meets WCAG A and AA criteria.	See <u>WCAG 2.2</u> section	See information in WCAG 2.2 section
602.4 Alternate Formats for Non-Electronic Support Documentation Where support documentation is only provided in non-electronic formats, alternative formats are provided upon request.	Supports	Contact us: peerj.com/about/contact/
603 Support Services	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required

Criteria Section 508 Chapter 6	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
603.2 Information on Accessibility and Compatibility Features	Supports	Accessibility statement: peerj.com/accessibility
Support services include information on the accessibility and compatibility features required by 602.2.		Help Centre: <u>peerj.com/help/</u>
603.3 Accommodation of Communication Needs There is a clear communication method for users, and those with communication needs will have these accommodated by the support services.	Supports	The site contains a consistent footer that includes a "Contact us" section which provides email addresses and a postal address.
		Contact us: peerj.com/about/contact/

EN 301 549 Report

Notes: n/a

Chapter <u>4: Functional Performance Statements</u> (FPS)

Notes: See Tables 1 and 2 for details on how each of the below criteria are met via WCAG standards.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 4	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.1 Usage without vision Where a visual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require user vision.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood by users without vision.
		Issues:
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		 Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 4	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.2 Usage with limited vision Where a visual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that enables users to make use of limited vision.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited vision.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 1.4.5, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.2.		Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, , 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.
4.2.3 Usage without perception of colour Where a visual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one visual mode of operation that does not require user perception of colour.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users without perception of color.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.4.1, 1.4.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.4.		Issues:Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.4.1, 1.4.3.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 4	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.4 Usage without hearing Where there is an audible mode of operation, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require user hearing.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users without hearing.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.4, 1.3.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.3.4.		Refer to the WCAG table entries 1.1.1, 1.2.1.
4.2.5 Usage with limited hearing Where there is an audible mode of operation, there is at least one mode of operation that enables uses to make use of limited hearing.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited hearing.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.4, 1.3.3 1.4.2, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.3.4.		 Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1.
4.2.6 Usage with no or limited vocal capability Where speech or other vocal prompt is used for input, control, or operation, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require user speech.	Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users without speech.
WCAG functional performance criteria: n/a		

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 4	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.7 Usage with limited manipulation or strength Where a manual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous manual operations.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited manipulation.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.2.1, 3.2.4, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		Issues: Refer to the WCAG table entries for 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.
4.2.8 Usage with limited reach Where a manual mode of operation is provided, there is at least one mode of operation that is operable with limited reach and limited strength.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited reach and strength.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.2.1, 3.2.4, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 4	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.9 Minimize photosensitive seizure triggers Where there are visual modes of operation, there is at least one mode of operation that minimizes the potential for triggering photosensitive seizures.	Supports	There is no flashing content on the site.
WCAG functional performance criteria: 2.3.1.		
4.2.10 Usage with limited cognition, language or learning There are features that make the site simpler and easier to use by individuals with limited cognitive, language, and learning abilities.	Partially Supports	The site can be perceived, operated, and understood, by users with limited cognitive, language, and learning abilities.
		lssues:
WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 1.2.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.5, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 2.4.7, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.		 Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1, 2.4.4, 2.4.7, 3.2.4, 4.1.2.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 4	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.11 Privacy The privacy of users is maintained when using accessibility features, and to the same level of privacy experienced by other users. WCAG functional performance criteria: 3.3.4.	Not Evaluated	Further testing scheduled for Q4 2025 to confirm that important forms like a legal agreement or submitting financial information offer the opportunity to check the information entered before sending.

Chapter <u>5: Generic Requirements</u>

Notes: Not applicable. Web requirements are evaluated in Chapter 9.

Chapter <u>6: ICT with Two-Way Voice Communication</u>

Notes: Not applicable. Does not have two-way voice communication capabilities.

Chapter <u>7: ICT with Video Capabilities</u>

Notes: See Tables 1 and 2 for details on how each of the below criteria are met via WCAG standards.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 7	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
7.1 Caption processing technology	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 7	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
 7.1.1 Captioning playback Where videos have synchronized audio, they are able to display captions. Where closed captions are provided, the user is able to choose to display these. WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.2.2, 1.2.4. 	Supports	Captions are provided for all prerecorded audio content. Where audio is a media alternative for text, it is clearly labelled as such.
 7.1.2 Captioning synchronization The mechanism to display captions preserves synchronization between the audio and the corresponding captions as follows. WCAG functional performance criteria: 1.2.2, 1.2.4. 	Supports	Captions are provided within 100 milliseconds of the time stamp. Live captions within 100 milliseconds of the availability of the caption to the player.
7.1.3 Preservation of captioning Where video with synchronized audio is transmitted, converted or recorded, the caption data is preserved to ensure it can be displayed as per 7.1.1 and 7.1.2.	Supports	As per 7.1.1 and 7.1.2
7.1.4 Captions characteristics The user can adapt the displayed characteristics of captions to their individual requirements, except where the captions are displayed as unmodifiable characters.	Does Not Support	Display options for captions cannot be changed by the user to meet their individual requirements.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 7	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
7.1.5 Spoken subtitlesVideo with synchronized audio, has a mode of operation to provide a spoken output of the captions.WCAG: 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5.	Does Not Support	Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.2.1.
 7.2.1 Audio description playback Video with synchronized audio, has a mechanism to select and play available audio description to the default audio channel. Where technologies do not have explicit and separate mechanisms for audio description, users can select and play several audio tracks. WCAG: 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5. 	Does Not Support	Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.2.1.
7.2.2 Audio description synchronizationSynchronization between the audio/visual content and the corresponding audio description is preserved.WCAG: 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5.	Does Not Support	Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.2.1.

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 7	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
7.2.3 Preservation of audio description Where video with synchronized audio is transmitted, converted or recorded, the audio description data is preserved to ensure it can be played as per 7.2.1 and 7.2.2. WCAG: 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5.	Does Not Support	Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.2.1.
7.3 User controls for captions and audio description Videos with associated audio content, have user controls to activate subtitling and audio description.	Does Not Support	Issues: • Refer to the WCAG table entries for 1.2.1.
WCAG: 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5.		

Chapter 8: Hardware

Notes: Not applicable. This website does not include hardware to evaluate.

Chapter 9: Web (see WCAG 2.2 section)

Notes: This chapter is covered by Tables 1 and 2 in the WCAG 2.2 section.

Chapter <u>10: Non-Web Documents</u>

Notes: Not evaluated. For information on supplement materials review the Accessibility Statement.

Chapter 11: Software

Notes: Not applicable. This website does not include software to evaluate.

Chapter 12: Documentation and Support Services

Notes: n/a

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 12	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
12.1 Product documentation	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required
12.1.1 Accessibility and compatibility features Documentation lists and explains how to use the accessibility and compatibility features; includes guidance for features that are built-in features, and compatible with assistive technologies.	Supports	Accessibility statement: peerj.com/accessibility Help Centre: peerj.com/help/
 12.1.2 Accessible documentation Product documentation is available in at least one of the following electronic formats: a Web format that conforms to the requirements (as per Clause 9) a non-web format (as per Clause 10). 	See <u>WCAG 2.2</u> section	See information in WCAG 2.2 section
12.2 Support Services	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required
12.2.2 Information on accessibility and compatibility features Information on the accessibility and compatibility features are provided.	Supports	Accessibility statement: peerj.com/accessibility Help Centre: peerj.com/help/

Criteria EN 301 549 Chapter 12	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
12.2.3 Effective communication Support services shall accommodate the communication needs of individuals with disabilities either directly or through a referral point.	Supports	The site contains a consistent footer that includes a "Contact us" section which provides email addresses and a postal address. Contact us: peerj.com/about/contact/
 12.2.4 Accessible documentation Documentation provided by support services is available in at least one of the following electronic formats: a Web format that conforms to the requirements (as per Clause 9) a non-web format (as per Clause 10). 	See <u>WCAG 2.2</u> section	See information in WCAG 2.2 section

Chapter 13: ICT Providing Relay or Emergency Service Access

Notes: Not applicable. Does not provide relay or emergency service access.

Legal Disclaimer (Taylor & Francis)

The Accessibility Conformance Report (ACR) is a self-assessment document which discloses how accessible Information and Communication Technology products are in accordance with global standards.

The Voluntary Product Accessibility Template utilized to generate this ACR, does not guarantee product accessibility but provides transparency around the product(s) and enables direction when accessing accessibility requirements.

Taylor & Francis has chosen to complete the ACR using the international version of the VPAT, which encompasses Section 508 (US), EN 301 549 (EU), and WCAG2.2 for its products.

This document is provided on an "as is" basis as information only and is subject to change without notice. Taylor & Francis excludes all liability whether in contract, tort (including liability for negligence but not including any liability that cannot be limited or excluded by law), or otherwise for the suitability, accuracy, or fitness for any purpose of the document. Save as expressly permitted in these terms, all warranties, conditions, or other terms implied by statute, common law, or otherwise are excluded by Informa to the fullest extent permitted by law.

[end of document]