

# VPAT Accessibility Conformance Report

(Based on ITI VPAT®)

Name of Product	Elsevier Shop
Date Last Updated	June 16, 2025
Completed by	Jean Ducrot
Applicable Standards/Guidelines	<a href="#">W3C WCAG 2.1 A and AA</a>
Contact for More Information	<a href="mailto:accessibility@elsevier.com">accessibility@elsevier.com</a>
Testing Tools and Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keyboard</li><li>• Windows 11</li><li>• Color Contrast Analyzer</li><li>• NVDA screen reader</li><li>• HeadingsMap browser extension</li><li>• Web Developer browser extension</li><li>• Taba11y browser extension</li><li>• ARC Toolkit browser extension</li></ul>
Document Sections	<p>The review document below includes all WCAG 2.1 A and AA checkpoints and is organized into 6 logical sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visuals</li><li>• Keyboard</li><li>• Headings and Structure</li><li>• Labeling</li><li>• Multimedia</li><li>• Usability</li></ul>
Pages Covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Home page</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Search results page</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Subject results page</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Book description page</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Journal description page</a></li></ul>
Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Supports:</b> The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criteria without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.</li><li>• <b>Partially supports:</b> Some functionality of the product does not meet the criteria.</li><li>• <b>Does not support:</b> The majority of functionality of the product does not meet the criteria.</li><li>• <b>Supports (N/A):</b> If there is no content to which a success criterion applies, the success criterion is satisfied.</li></ul>
Notes/Terminology	"AT" stands for Assistive Technology such as screen readers, voice input, etc.

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
1.1.1: Non-text Content	A	Partially Supports
1.2.1: Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	A	Supports (N/A)
1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded)	A	Supports (N/A)
1.2.3: Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	A	Supports (N/A)
1.2.4: Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5: Audio Description	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.3.1: Info and Relationships	A	Partially Supports
1.3.2: Meaningful Sequence	A	Supports
1.3.3: Sensory Characteristics	A	Supports
1.3.4 Orientation	AA	Supports
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports
1.4.1: Use of Color	A	Supports
1.4.2: Audio Control	A	Supports (N/A)
1.4.3: Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Supports
1.4.4: Resize text	AA	Partially Supports
1.4.5: Images of Text	AA	Supports
1.4.10 Reflow	AA	Partially Supports
1.4.11 Non-Text Contrast	AA	Supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	AA	Supports
2.1.1: Keyboard	A	Partially Supports
2.1.2: No Keyboard Trap	A	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts	A	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1: Timing Adjustable	A	Supports
2.2.2: Pause, Stop, Hide	A	Supports (N/A)
2.3.1: Three Flashes or Below Threshold	A	Supports
2.4.1: Bypass Blocks	A	Supports
2.4.2: Page Titled	A	Supports
2.4.3: Focus Order	A	Partially Supports
2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)	A	Partially Supports
2.4.5: Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6: Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7: Focus Visible	AA	Supports
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	A	Supports (N/A)
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation	A	Supports
2.5.3 Label in Name	A	Partially Supports
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (2.1)	A	Supports (N/A)
3.1.1: Language of Page	A	Supports
3.1.2: Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
3.2.1: On Focus	A	Supports
3.2.2: On Input	A	Supports

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
3.2.3: Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4: Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
3.3.1: Error Identification	A	Supports
3.3.2: Labels or Instructions	A	Partially Supports
3.3.3: Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
3.3.4: Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
4.1.1: Parsing	A	Supports
4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	A	Partially Supports
4.1.3 Status Messages (2.1)	AA	Supports

Visuals		
WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Supporting Features	Remarks
<a href="#">1.1.1: Non-Text Content</a> (A) Provide text alternatives for non-text content (e.g. images)	Partially Supports	Most meaningful visual shapes and images have equivalent descriptive text.  <b>Exceptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Home page - Health shops image alt text: The alt text for a collection of decorative book covers is inaccurately labeled as "Health Shops."</li> <li>Home page - Subscription product cards: The alt text for a decorative image unnecessarily includes the word "image."</li> </ul>
<a href="#">1.3.3: Sensory Characteristics</a> (A) Do not rely on sensory characteristics of components such as shape, size, visual location, orientation, or sound	Supports	Content is not presented solely through sensory characteristics.
<a href="#">1.4.1: Use of Color</a> (A) Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying info	Supports	Information is never communicated solely through color as a means of identification.
<a href="#">1.4.3: Color Contrast (Minimum)</a> (AA) Text has enough contrast with the background (4.5:1 for small text and 3:1 for large text)	Supports	The text always maintains or exceeds the minimum required contrast ratio with its background, depending on the font size.
<a href="#">1.4.4: Resize Text</a> (AA)	Partially Supports	Text content in this product can always be enlarged to twice its original size without any loss of readability.

Text can be enlarged up to 200% without loss of functionality.		<b>Exceptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Journal description page - Subscription options section: The text labels on option tabs cannot be resized, making them difficult for low-vision users to read.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">1.4.5: Images of Text (AA)</a> Text is used rather than images of text, except where the presentation of text is essential, such as logos	Supports	Images of text are only used for logos or essential presentation and always with appropriate alternatives.
<a href="#">1.4.10 Reflow (AA)</a> Content can be presented without loss of information or functionality, and without requiring scrolling in two dimensions for: Vertical scrolling content at a width equivalent to 320 CSS pixels. Horizontal scrolling content at a height equivalent to 256 CSS pixels.	Partially Supports	Most pages and widgets can be made four times bigger without losing any content or features.  <b>Exceptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page headers - Search Input: Placeholder text becomes partially hidden when zoomed in at 400%.</li> <li>Spanish Site Search Results Page - individual book purchase button: The button disappears when the page text is enlarged to 400%.</li> <li>Search by Subject Results page - Pre-order &amp; buy buttons: The button disappears when the page text is enlarged to 400%.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">1.4.11 Non-Text Contrast (AA)</a> User interact components and graphical objects have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 against adjacent color(s).	Supports	Non-text items always maintain or exceed a color contrast ratio of 3 to 1 with surrounding colors.
<a href="#">1.4.12 Text Spacing (AA)</a> In content implemented using markup languages that support the following text style properties, no loss of content or functionality occurs by setting all the following and by changing no other style property:	Supports	Text spacing can be adjusted without causing any problems on all pages.

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.		
<a href="#">1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (AA)</a> Where receiving and then removing pointer hover or keyboard focus triggers additional content to become visible and then hidden, the following are true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dismissible</li> <li>• Hoverable</li> <li>• Persistent</li> </ul>	Supports	The content revealed on focus or hover in this product is always persistent and can be hovered and dismissed.
<a href="#">2.3.1: Three Flashes or Below Threshold (A)</a> No more than three flashes in a 1-second period, or the flashes are below the defined thresholds	Supports (N/A)	This product does not contain any flashing content.
Keyboard		
WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Supporting Features	Remarks
<a href="#">1.3.2: Meaningful Sequence (A)</a> The correct reading sequence can be programmatically determined	Supports	The reading order of all pages is logical and can be programmatically determined.
<a href="#">2.1.1: Keyboard (A)</a> All functionality is available from a keyboard, except for tasks such as drawing	Partially Supports	Most content and functionalities can be operated using a keyboard.  <b>Exceptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish Language Home Page - List of sample titles: The list of sample titles contains an excessive number of keyboard navigation tab stops.</li> <li>• Book detail page - Add To Cart &amp; Pre-Order buttons: Text near the button is not semantically associated with it, causing missing context for non-sighted users.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Journal description page - Journal metrics modal: Text within the modal cannot be scrolled using a keyboard when the page is enlarged to 200% or 400%.</li> <li>Journal description page - Related books section: The list of related books contains an excessive number of keyboard navigation tab stops.</li> <li>Book detail page - Related books section: The list of related books contains an excessive number of keyboard navigation tab stops.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">2.1.2: No Keyboard Trap (A)</a> The user can use the keyboard to move through page elements and is not trapped on a particular element	Supports	All pages in this product are free of keyboard traps.
<a href="#">2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (A)</a> If a keyboard shortcut is implemented in content using only letter (including upper- and lower-case letters), punctuation, number, or symbol characters, then at least one of the following is true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn off</li> <li>Remap</li> <li>Active only on focus</li> </ul>	Supports (N/A)	This product does not use any character key shortcuts.
<a href="#">2.4.3: Focus Order (A)</a> Users can tab through the elements of a page in a logical order	Partially Supports	The keyboard focus order is logical on most pages.  <b>Exceptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Search Results Page - Filters modals: When the modal is closed, keyboard focus does not return to the button that opened it.</li> <li>Search Results Page - Individual book pricing information container: A non-interactive HTML element is incorrectly keyboard focusable.</li> <li>Search Results Page - Available formats modal: The generic HTML container for a group of radio buttons is improperly keyboard focusable.</li> <li>Search by Subject Results page - individual product pricing detail container: A non-interactive HTML element is incorrectly keyboard focusable.</li> <li>Book detail page - Purchase options section: A non-interactive HTML element is incorrectly keyboard focusable.</li> </ul>

<a href="#">2.4.7: Focus Visible</a> (AA) The page element with the current keyboard focus has a visible focus indicator	Supports	All interactive elements display a visible focus indicator when accessed via keyboard.
<a href="#">3.2.1: On Focus</a> (A) When a UI component receives focus, this does not trigger unexpected actions.	Supports	Focusable elements do not initiate unexpected actions when they receive focus.
<b>Headers and Structure</b>		
<b>WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks</b>

<p><a href="#">1.3.1: Information and Relationships</a> (A)</p> <p>Info, structure, and relationships can be programmatically determined</p>	<p>Partially Supports</p>	<p>The product mostly implements accessible code-based information and structure.</p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Page headers - Change country modal: The select dropdown visible label is not semantically associated with the element</li> <li>• Footer Page footers - Headings: Text styled as headings is not properly marked up with heading elements.</li> <li>• Footer Page footers - Navigation Links: Each list of links should be enclosed in a navigation landmark labeled to match its visible heading.</li> <li>• Footer Page footers - Navigation links: The navigation list of links does not use proper list semantics.</li> <li>• Spanish Language Home Page - heading structure: The semantic heading structure of the page does not align with its visual heading hierarchy.</li> <li>• Home Page - Browse by subject list of links: The list of links is missing proper list markup and is not enclosed within a semantic list structure.</li> <li>• Search Results Page - Result book title container: The unique header landmark is incorrectly used multiple times on the page.</li> <li>• Search Results Page - search results list: Each search result is incorrectly placed in its own separate list instead of being included as individual list items within a single, unified list.</li> <li>• Search Results Page - Checkboxes inside filters panel: Some related checkboxes are missing a properly labeled grouping container.</li> <li>• Search Results Page - Pagination Widget: The link representing the current page in the pagination is missing the appropriate ARIA attribute.</li> <li>• Search by Subject Results page - Each book region in the result list: The collection of search results is not presented using a list or appropriately named regions.</li> <li>• Book detail page - Product details section: Text styled as headings is not marked up with proper semantic heading elements.</li> <li>• Book detail page - Purchase options section: Conditionally displayed text for each purchase option is not semantically linked to its corresponding option, causing it to be missed by non-sighted users.</li> <li>• Journal description page - Add to cart button: Text near the button is not semantically associated with it, causing missing context for non-sighted users.</li> <li>• Journal description page - main page heading: The unique header landmark is incorrectly used multiple times on the page.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">2.4.1: Bypass Blocks</a> (A)</p> <p>Users can bypass repeated blocks of content.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>Users can navigate past repeated sections of content using headings and skip links.</p>



<a href="#">2.4.6: Headings and Labels</a> (AA) Headings and labels are clear and consistent.	Supports	All headings and labels used in this product are clear and consistent.
<a href="#">3.1.1: Language of Page</a> (A) The language of the page is specified	Supports	The language used on each page is programmatically set.
<a href="#">3.1.2: Language of Parts</a> (AA) Specify the language of text passages that are in a different language than the default language of the page.	Partially Supports	Most content displayed in a language different from the one set at the page level is identified programmatically.  <b>Exceptions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish Language Home Page - Special Offer image: The alt text for a decorative image is written in English, while the page content is in Spanish.</li> <li>Spanish Language Journal description page - Authors bio section: Content in English is not semantically identified as English, causing screen readers to pronounce it with a strong Spanish accent.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">4.1.1: Parsing</a> (A) Use valid, error-free HTML	Supports	This product does not have any parsing issues that create accessibility problems.

## Labeling

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Supporting Features	Remarks
<a href="#">1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose</a> (AA) The purpose of each input field collecting information about the user can be programmatically determined when: The input field serves a purpose identified in the Input Purposes for User Interface Components section; and the content is implemented using technologies with support for identifying the expected meaning for form input data.	Supports	All input fields used to collect the logged-in user's personal information can be auto-filled.
<a href="#">2.4.2: Page Titled</a> (A) The page has a title describing its topic or purpose	Supports	Each page in this product has a distinct and meaningful title.

<p><a href="#">2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)</a> (A)</p> <p>The purpose of each link can be determined from the link text or surrounding context.</p>	Partially Supports	<p>The function of any link in this product can be understood from its label or context within the product interface.</p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Home page - Elsevier logo link label: The linked Elsevier logo has an inaccurate accessible name, labeled simply as "Elsevier" instead of the more descriptive "Elsevier Global Store."</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">2.5.3 Label in Name</a> (A)</p> <p>For user interface components with labels that include text or images of text, the name contains the text that is presented visually.</p>	Partially Supports	<p>Most UI components have an accessible name that is automatically included in its visible text-based label, if it has one.</p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page headers - Change your Country modal: The dropdown's accessible name does not match its visible label.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">3.2.4: Consistent Identification</a> (AA)</p> <p>UI components used across the web site are identified consistently on every page.</p>	Supports	<p>This product consistently features identifiable UI components.</p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <p>Home page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arrow icons next to links: Inconsistent use of visual markers</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">3.3.1: Error Identification</a> (A)</p> <p>Input errors are clearly marked and described to the user.</p>	Supports	<p>All error messages offer specific feedback and are displayed close to their respective inputs.</p>
<p><a href="#">3.3.2: Labels and Instructions</a> (A)</p> <p>Items requiring user input are clearly labeled or have clear instructions.</p>	Partially Supports	<p>Instructions for all necessary user inputs are almost always provided in a permanently visible manner. Required inputs are always clearly marked.</p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page headers - Change Country button: The button's visible label displays the country code, but this information is missing from its accessible name.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">3.3.3: Error Suggestion</a> (AA)</p> <p>When the user makes an input error, give suggestions for valid input.</p>	Supports	<p>This product consistently displays helpful error messages.</p>
<p><a href="#">4.1.2: Name, Role, Value</a> (A)</p> <p>For all UI components, the name, value, and role can be programmatically determined.</p>	Partially Supports	<p>Most UI components in this product have unique and meaningful names, values, and roles that can be programmatically verified.</p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page headers - Browse by Subject Navigation: The list of links has an incorrect role of "menu" and does not contain any menu items.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Page headers - Browse by Subject button: The button is missing the expected ARIA attributes that indicate it controls visually hidden content in a disclosure.</li> <li>Page headers - Search Button: The button's accessible name is confusing.</li> <li>Search Results Page - Filter button inside of filters panel: Some buttons include unnecessary or incorrect aria-expanded attributes.</li> <li>Search Results Page - search results list sorting control: An interactive, focusable element is missing an accessible name.</li> <li>Search by Subject Results page - Subject details show more button: The label and state of a toggle button change simultaneously.</li> <li>Search by Subject Results page - Add To Cart &amp; Pre-Order buttons: Buttons are incorrectly used as links.</li> <li>Book detail page - DRM-Free &amp; eBooks format modal dialogs: The modal dialog does not have an accessible name.</li> <li>Book detail page - Purchase options section: The purchase option radio buttons have identical, generic accessible names despite having different visible labels.</li> <li>Journal description page - Purchase options section: The purchase option radio buttons have identical, generic accessible names despite having different visible labels.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">4.1.3 Status Messages</a> (AA) In content implemented using markup languages, status messages can be programmatically determined through role or properties such that they can be presented to the user by assistive technologies without receiving focus.	Supports	Visual status messages are both displayed and consistently announced by screen readers.
Multimedia		
WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Supporting Features	Remarks
<a href="#">1.2.1: Audio-only or Video-only (Prerecorded)</a> (A) Provide alternatives for pre-recorded audio-only or video-only content.	Supports (N/A)	This product does not include any audio or video content.
<a href="#">1.2.2: Captions (Prerecorded)</a> (A)	Supports (N/A)	This product does not include any audio or video content.

Provide captions for pre-recorded audio		
<a href="#">1.2.3: Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)</a> (A) Provide alternatives for pre-recorded synchronized audio/video	Supports (N/A)	This product does not include any audio or video content.
<a href="#">1.2.4: Captions (Live)</a> (AA) Provide captions for live audio in synchronized audio/video.	Supports (N/A)	There is no live audio in synchronized audio/video.
<a href="#">1.2.5: Audio Description (Prerecorded)</a> (AA) Provide an audio description of pre-recorded video.	Supports (N/A)	This product does not include any pre-recorded audio content.
<a href="#">1.4.2: Audio Control</a> (A) Audio can be paused and stopped, or the audio volume can be changed.	Supports (N/A)	This product does not include any pre-recorded audio content.
<a href="#">2.2.2: Pause, Stop, Hide</a> (A) Users can stop, pause, or hide moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating information.	Supports (N/A)	This product doesn't have any moving, flashing, scrolling, or automatically updating content.
Usability		
WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Supporting Features	Remarks
<a href="#">2.2.1: Timing Adjustable</a> (A) Users are warned of time limits shorter than 20 hours and time limits can be turned off or extended	Supports	This product doesn't have any time limits less than 20 hours.
<a href="#">2.4.5: Multiple Ways</a> (AA) More than one way is available to navigate to other web pages.	Supports	This product employs a global navigation hierarchy and a search feature to ensure all pages are accessible to all users, regardless of their preferred method of navigation.
<a href="#">3.2.2: On Input</a> (A)	Supports	User input does not lead to any unexpected context changes.

Changing the setting of a checkbox, radio button, or other UI component does not trigger unexpected changes in context.		
<a href="#">3.2.3: Consistent Navigation</a> (AA) Navigation menus are in the same location and order on every web page.	Supports	Navigation menus are consistently placed in the same location and arranged in the same order, based on display conditions.
<a href="#">3.3.4: Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)</a> (AA) For web pages with legal or financial commitments, input can be reviewed and corrected before final submission, and submissions can be reverted.	Supports (N/A)	Users can review all information related to financially and/or legally binding terms and conditions and correct their input before submission.

## Mobile User Experience

WCAG 2.1 Checkpoint	Supporting Features	Remarks
<a href="#">1.3.4 Orientation</a> (AA) Content does not restrict its view and operation to a single display orientation, such as portrait or landscape, unless a specific display orientation is essential.	Supports	This product does not restrict its view to a single orientation.
<a href="#">2.5.1 Pointer Gestures</a> (A) All functionality that uses multipoint or path-based gestures for operation can be operated with a single pointer without a path-based gesture, unless a multipoint or path-based gesture is essential.	Supports (N/A)	This product does not use any multipoint or path-based gestures.
<a href="#">2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (A)</a> For functionality that can be operated using a single pointer, at	Supports	All interactive features work through the Up-Event. This means users can move their pointer off the feature if they want to cancel.

<p>least one of the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Down-Event</li> <li>• Abort or Undo</li> <li>• Up Reversal</li> <li>• Essential</li> </ul>		
<p><a href="#">2.5.4 Motion Actuation (A)</a></p> <p>Functionality that can be operated by device motion or user motion can also be operated by user interface components and responding to the motion can be disabled to prevent accidental actuation, except when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported Interface</li> <li>• Essential</li> </ul>	Supports (N/A)	This product doesn't use any movement from the device or user.