

Avoid Plagiarism on Wikinews

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Except for brief quotations that are attributed in the text, copying content from copyrighted sources onto Wikinews is against policy. Whether direct copying or close paraphrasing, plagiarism and copyright violation are dishonest, will lead to an article not getting published, and cause a loss of accumulated reputation for the reporter. It can also result in real life implications for those involved such as academic demotion or expulsion at some Universities.

Tips for avoiding plagiarism on English Wikinews

- Resist the temptation to copy and paste text in from another source, and then rework the text on the article.
- If you need to copy and paste, only copy and paste proper nouns. Do not copy and paste sentences or adjectives.
- Most sources used for Wikinews articles are short and require 1 to 4 minutes of reading. Read the sources 2 or 3 times until you understand what they say. Write your story from that understanding. Then go back to the sources to fact check your work.
- Use <https://tools.wmflabs.org/dupdet/> to self-check if you have concerns that you might have inadvertently plagiarized.
- Write with the Style Guide in mind. Other news publications frequently have a different house style, which makes the text directly incompatible with Wikinews.
- If there are more than 3 words that are the same in your work and the source, attribute the string to the author. See if attributing the source makes sense or if it sounds like you are just attributing your copying.
- Ask yourself if your article provides a new perspective on the news event or if it repeats everything the sources say. If the answer is yes, consider rewriting.
- Cite all news sources you used to write the article.