

**PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Financial Statements
with Independent Auditor's Report

December 31, 2025

**GALLEROS ROBINSON
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, LLP**

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

DECEMBER 31, 2025

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Publishers International Linking Association, Inc.

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Publishers International Linking Association, Inc. d/b/a Crossref (the "Association"), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as of December 31, 2025, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Association and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Association's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Association's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2025

ASSETS

Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,370,322
Restricted cash	327,248
Accounts receivable, net	7,907,914
Prepaid expenses	<u>455,192</u>
Total current assets	<u>19,060,676</u>

Noncurrent assets

Investments	11,433,259
Property and equipment, net	10,052
Operating lease right-of-use asset	29,159
Intangible asset	175,000
Security and other deposits	<u>435,078</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>12,082,548</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 31,143,224</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 4,928,102
Operating lease liability	26,746
Deferred revenue	<u>260,600</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>5,215,448</u>

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions

Undesignated	14,167,269
Board-designated	<u>11,433,259</u>
Total without donor restrictions	25,600,528

With donor restrictions	<u>327,248</u>
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Total Net Assets	<u>25,927,776</u>
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 31,143,224</u>
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PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT			
Content registration fees	\$ 8,413,741	\$ -	\$ 8,413,741
Membership and subscriber fees	4,663,451	-	4,663,451
Document check fees	1,078,098	-	1,078,098
Contributions	-	263,772	263,772
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>252,859</u>	<u>(252,859)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total operating revenue and support	<u>14,408,149</u>	<u>10,913</u>	<u>14,419,062</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Program services	9,229,091	-	9,229,091
General and administrative	<u>2,814,635</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,814,635</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>12,043,726</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,043,726</u>
Change in net assets from operations	2,364,423	10,913	2,375,336
OTHER INCOME			
Investment return, net	775,956	-	775,956
Foreign currency exchange gain, net	<u>9,291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,291</u>
Total other income	<u>785,247</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>785,247</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	3,149,670	10,913	3,160,583
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>22,450,858</u>	<u>316,335</u>	<u>22,767,193</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 25,600,528</u>	<u>\$ 327,248</u>	<u>\$ 25,927,776</u>

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	Program Services	General and Administrative	Total
Salaries, taxes and benefits	\$ 5,998,405	\$ 1,581,477	\$ 7,579,882
Data center, software support and licensing	1,727,408	172,708	1,900,116
Product training, development and outreach	478,078	82,914	560,992
Travel, meetings and conferences	251,668	172,478	424,146
Consulting	364,120	35,590	399,710
Professional fees	-	388,898	388,898
Registration fees	281,000	-	281,000
Service fees	-	260,170	260,170
Supplies	51,471	22,687	74,158
Facilities	40,765	14,267	55,032
Dues and subscriptions	-	49,778	49,778
Insurance	26,628	7,157	33,785
Credit losses	-	23,945	23,945
Depreciation	9,548	2,566	12,114
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 9,229,091</u>	<u>\$ 2,814,635</u>	<u>\$ 12,043,726</u>

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Change in net assets	\$ 3,160,583
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash from operating activities:	
Credit losses	23,945
Depreciation	12,114
Noncash lease expense	(1,467)
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	(152,722)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
(Increase) decrease in assets:	
Accounts receivable	(1,081,672)
Prepaid expenses	6,629
Security and other deposits	(172,553)
Increase in liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	995,240
Deferred revenue	29,912
Net cash from operating activities	<u>2,820,009</u>

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:

Purchase of investments	(3,581,231)
Proceeds from sale of investments	<u>2,710,837</u>
Net cash used for investing activities	<u>(870,394)</u>

NET CHANGE IN CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND RESTRICTED CASH 1,949,615

CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND RESTRICTED CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR 8,747,955

CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND RESTRICTED CASH, END OF YEAR \$ 10,697,570

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Cash paid for leases included in the measurement of operating lease liabilities \$ 45,387

Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash included in the Statement of Cash Flows at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,370,322
Restricted cash	<u>327,248</u>
	<u>\$ 10,697,570</u>

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2025

1. ORGANIZATION

Publishers International Linking Association, Inc. (the "Association"), doing business as Crossref, makes research objects easy to find, cite, link, assess, and reuse. The Association runs various programs which enables the creation of persistent links to full-text scholarly content located on different member sites and a cross-reference linking service. The Association's principal place of operation is in Lynnfield, Massachusetts. The Association provides services through a distributed workforce model with employees located in Canada, Ecuador, Germany, Ireland, Kenya, Netherlands, Nigeria, Spain, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Austria, Armenia, Georgia, Ghana, Ecuador and the United States.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting and Presentation

The financial statements of the Association have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"), which require the Association to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following net asset classifications:

Net assets without donor restrictions. Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the Association. These net assets may be used at the discretion of the Association's management and the board of directors.

Net assets with donor restrictions. Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Association or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, whereby the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions in the statement of activities.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Performance Indicator

In the accompanying statement of activities, the primary indicator of the Association's results is the change in net assets from operations. As such, it includes all operating revenues and operating expenses. Transactions such as investment return, net and foreign currency exchange gain, net are not included as a component of change in net assets from operations in the statement of activities.

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash

Cash and cash equivalents include all cash balances and highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when acquired, except for cash and cash equivalents included in investments.

The Association has restricted cash provided by private funding sources to establish the Research Organization Registry ("ROR") and Barcelona Declaration Project ("BD") (Note 11).

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances.

Allowance for Credit Losses

The Association carries its accounts receivable net of an allowance for credit losses. The Association estimates the allowance based upon a review of outstanding receivables and historical collection information by customer. Receivables are written off when they are deemed to be uncollectible.

The allowance estimate is derived from a review of the Association's historical losses based on the aging of receivables. Factors used to determine whether an allowance should be recorded include management's assessment of the creditworthiness of its debtors, the age of the receivables, a review of payments subsequent to year-end as well as current economic conditions and historical information. A receivable is considered past due if payment has not been received within stated terms. Once all practical resources to collect the receivable have been utilized without success, the receivable is deemed uncollectible and charged against the allowance for credit losses. The allowance for credit losses as of December 31, 2025 amounted to \$286,842.

The Association does not accrue interest on past due receivables.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost or, if donated, at the estimated fair value at the date of donation. The Association capitalizes additions and improvements in excess of \$5,000. Maintenance and repair costs are charged to expenses as incurred.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Property and Equipment - Continued

Depreciation is provided utilizing the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets as follows:

	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
Equipment	2 - 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 years

Impairment of Long-lived Assets

The Association evaluates long-lived assets held and used by the Association for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized if the value of the expected undiscounted future cash flows from the use and disposition of the asset is less than its carrying amount. Generally, the amount of impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the estimated fair value of the asset. The Association did not record any impairment loss during the year ended December 31, 2025.

Leases

The Association leases office space in the U.S. and England. The Association determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. Noncancellable operating leases in excess of 12 months are presented as right-of-use ("ROU") assets. ROU assets represent the Association's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and the lease liability represents the Association's obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. ROU assets and liabilities are recognized at commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. If a lease does not provide an implicit rate, the Association uses a risk-free rate based on the information available at commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. The ROU asset also includes any lease payments made and excludes lease incentives. The Association's ROU assets and liability include options to extend the lease when it is reasonably certain the Association will exercise that option. Lease expense for lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Subsequently, the operating lease ROU assets would be measured as the lease liability is adjusted by (1) accrued or prepaid rents (i.e., the aggregate difference between the cash payment and straight-line lease cost), (2) remaining unamortized initial direct costs and lease incentives, and (3) impairments of the ROU asset.

Operating lease liabilities are measured at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term (less any lease incentives).

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Leases - Continued

The Association has elected to apply the short-term lease exemption to certain office and storage spaces. Short-term leases are defined as leases with lease terms of 12 months or less or a 12-month lease with an option to extend in which it is reasonably certain the option will not be exercised. If it is probable that the option will be exercised, the noncancellable lease will not qualify as a short-term lease. Lease expense for short-term leases are recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term, and any variable lease payments are recorded in the period in which the obligation for those payments is incurred.

The Association has lease agreements with lease and non-lease components, which are generally accounted for separately. For certain leases, such as office space, lease and non-lease components are accounted for as a single lease component. For arrangements accounted for as a single lease component, there may be variability in future lease payments as the amount of the non-lease components is typically revised from one period to the next. These variable lease payments, which are primarily comprised of real estate taxes, operating costs and utilities that are passed on from the lessor in proportion to the space leased, are recognized in operating expenses in the period in which the obligation for those payments is incurred.

Investments

Investments are stated at readily determinable fair market value in accordance with the Not-for-Profit Entities topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC"). All interest, dividends, and realized and unrealized gains and losses are reported in the statement of activities as increases or decreases in net assets without donor restrictions unless their use is restricted explicitly by donor stipulations or by law.

Interest income is recognized when earned and realized capital gains or losses are recognized upon the sale of the security using the trade-date basis.

Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Fair value should be based on the assumptions market participants would use when pricing an asset or liability. U.S. GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes investments based on those assumptions. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets (observable inputs) and the lowest priority to an entity's assumptions (unobservable inputs). The Association groups assets at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

Level 1 Unadjusted quoted market prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets as of the measurement date.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Fair Value Measurements - Continued

Level 2 Other observable inputs, either directly or indirectly, including:

- Quoted prices for similar assets/liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets in non-active markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset/liability; and,
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by other observable market data.

Level 3 Unobservable inputs that cannot be corroborated by observable market data.

Refer to Note 9 - Investments and Fair Value Measurements for assets measured at fair value.

Intangible Asset

The intangible asset consists of the Retraction Watch database acquired from the Center for Scientific Integrity, Inc. ("CSI"). The intangible asset has an indefinite useful life and is tested at least annually for impairment. Impairment exists if the carrying value of the asset exceeds its fair value. As of December 31, 2025, the Association believes no triggering events have occurred and no impairment to the intangible asset exists.

Revenue and Support Recognition

Content Registration, Membership and Subscriber and Document Check Fees

The Association has three primary forms of revenue:

- Content registration fees - paid for registering content in the Association's system and are recognized as revenue when invoiced quarterly in arrears.
- Membership and subscriber fees - represent annual member and affiliate fees paid for the use of the online database and are recognized as earned ratably over the 12-month membership term.
- Document check fees - earned to administer a plagiarism detection service offered to members and serviced by a third-party provider, and are recognized as revenue when invoiced annually in arrears. As the Association does not control the plagiarism detection service before it is transferred to the member, the Association acts as an agent and recognizes revenue net of amounts paid to the third-party provider (Note 5).

Deferred revenue consists of content registration and membership and subscriber fees received in advance of when the related services are provided. See Note 4 for further information on performance obligations and disaggregation of revenue.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Revenue and Support Recognition - Continued

Contributions

Contributions are provided to the Association either with or without restrictions placed on the gift by the donor. Revenues and net assets are separately reported to reflect the nature of those gifts - with or without donor restrictions. Unconditional contributions, including promises to give cash and other assets, are reported at fair value at the date the contribution is received. The value recorded for each contribution is recognized as follows:

Nature of the Gift	Value Recognized
<i>Conditional gifts and grants, with or without restrictions</i>	
Gifts and grants that depend on the Association overcoming a donor-imposed barrier to be entitled to the funds	Not recognized until the gift becomes unconditional, i.e., the donor-imposed barrier is met
<i>Unconditional gifts and grants, with or without restrictions</i>	
Received at date of gift - cash and other assets	Fair value
Received at date of gift - property, equipment and long-lived assets	Estimated fair value
Expected to be collected within one year	Net realizable value
Expected to be collected in future years	Initially reported at fair value determined using the discounted present value of estimated future cash flows technique

In addition to the amount initially recognized, revenue for unconditional gifts to be collected in future years is also recognized each year as the present-value discount is amortized using the level yield method.

When a donor stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Absent explicit donor stipulations for the period of time that long-lived assets must be held, expirations of restrictions for gifts of land, buildings, equipment and other long-lived assets are reported when those assets are placed in service. Gifts and investment income that are originally restricted by the donor and for which the restriction is met in the same time period are recorded as revenue with donor restrictions and then released from restriction.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Foreign Currency Transactions

The Association has operations outside of the U.S. In the normal course of business, the Association is exposed to fluctuations in currency values. In accordance with authoritative guidance on foreign currency remeasurement, nonmonetary assets, capital accounts, liabilities, revenues and expenses are remeasured from the applicable local currency into the functional currency (U.S. Dollars) using historical exchange rates in effect at the transaction date, and monetary assets and liabilities are remeasured using the statement of financial position date exchange rate. Revenues and expenses related to monetary items are remeasured using the weighted-average exchange rate prevailing during the year. Exchange gains and losses resulting from remeasurements into the functional currency are recorded as a component of operations. Gains and losses resulting from transactions in foreign currencies are recognized in other expenses as foreign currency exchange gain, net on the accompanying statement of activities.

Income Taxes

The Association is exempt from federal and state income taxes under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"). Fees or other payments made to the Association are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. However, the payments may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses to the extent allowed by the IRC.

Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes

The Association applies the provisions pertaining to uncertain tax provisions, FASB ASC Topic 740, and has determined that there are no material uncertain tax positions that require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. The Association is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Association believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2022.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing the Association's services have been summarized on a functional basis. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited. Expenses attributable to more than one functional expense category are allocated using a variety of cost allocation techniques such as time and effort.

Subsequent Events

Management of the Association has evaluated subsequent events through June 19, 2026, which is the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

3. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIQUIDITY RESOURCES

The following represents the Association's financial assets, reduced by amounts not available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year at December 31, 2025:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,370,322
Restricted cash	327,248
Accounts receivable, net	7,907,914
Investments	<u>11,433,259</u>
Total financial assets	30,038,743
Less: Contractual or donor-imposed restrictions:	
Document check fee payable (see Note 5)	4,279,163
Board-designated	11,433,259
Purpose-restricted	<u>327,248</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs	
for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 13,999,073</u>

The Association has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due.

4. PERFORMANCE OBLIGATIONS AND DISAGGREGATION OF REVENUE

Revenue from performance obligations satisfied at a point in time consists of content registration and document check fees. Revenue is recognized as invoiced since control of the service passes to the customer as soon as content is registered or checked. Invoices for these services are processed quarterly or annually in arrears with payment terms of 45 days from invoice date.

Revenue from performance obligations satisfied over time consists of annual membership and subscriber fees. These fees are invoiced annually in January with payment terms of 45 days from invoice date.

In the following table, revenue noted above is disaggregated by timing of satisfaction of performance obligations as follows:

Performance obligations:	
Satisfied at a point in time	\$ 9,491,839
Satisfied over time	<u>4,663,451</u>
Total	<u>\$ 14,155,290</u>

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

5. DOCUMENT CHECK FEE

The Association is a party to an agreement with Turnitin, LLC ("Turnitin"), an unrelated third party, through an initial term of May 2022 and year-to-year thereafter, to provide Association members plagiarism detection service. In accordance with the agreement, the Association invoices its participating members the full cost of the service, retains 20% of the fee for its administration of the program and remits the balance to Turnitin for its services. The Association is required to pay Turnitin regardless of whether it collects the receivable from the member. In addition, Turnitin is required to provide certain levels of service and is charged for breaches, which it remits in the form of a credit.

The program activity for the year ended December 31, 2025 was as follows:

Program billings to members	\$ 5,395,021
Fee due to Turnitin (80%)	(4,316,017)
Credits received from Turnitin	<u>(906)</u>
Document check fees revenue	<u>\$ 1,078,098</u>

Program billings of \$5,395,021 are included in accounts receivable, net in the statement of financial position at December 31, 2025. The payment due to Turnitin of \$4,279,163 is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the statement of financial position at December 31, 2025.

6. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET

As of December 31, 2025, accounts receivable, net are comprised of the following:

Accounts receivable	\$ 8,186,007
Other receivables	<u>8,749</u>
Total	8,194,756
Less: allowance for credit losses	<u>(286,842)</u>
	<u>\$ 7,907,914</u>

Changes in the allowance for credit losses for the year ended December 31, 2025 are as follows:

Balance, beginning of year	\$ 221,415
Provision for credit losses	67,015
Write-offs	<u>(1,588)</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 286,842</u>

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

7. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment, net consisted of the following:

Equipment	\$ 169,434
Furniture and fixture	<u>36,580</u>
	206,014
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(195,962)</u>
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 10,052</u>

Depreciation expenses amounted to \$12,114 as of December 31, 2025. In 2025, the Association wrote off fully depreciated equipment with an original cost of \$277,824.

8. LEASES

The Association leases office space in Lynnfield, Massachusetts under a noncancellable operating lease agreement. The lease requires monthly rental payments, which include a pro-rata share of real estate taxes, utilities and other operating costs, of approximately \$3,500 through August 2023, increased annually thereafter by approximately \$100 per month. The lease will expire on August 31, 2026, with an option to extend for three additional years. At the inception of the lease, management was not certain to exercise extension options.

As of December 31, 2025, the balance of operating lease ROU asset and operating lease liability as shown in the statement of financial position are \$29,159 and \$26,746, respectively. The lease assets and liabilities were calculated utilizing discount rate of 1.37%, according to the Association's elected policy.

Security deposits on operating lease amounted to \$3,000 at December 31, 2025.

The following summarizes the weighted average remaining lease term and discount rate as of December 31, 2025:

Weighted average remaining lease term	Less than 1 year
Weighted average discount rate	1.37%

Lease expenses included in the statement of functional expenses as facilities for the year ended December 31, 2025 are as follows:

Operating lease expense	\$ 44,197
Short-term lease expense and other related costs	<u>5,503</u>
	<u>\$ 49,700</u>

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

8. LEASES - CONTINUED

Future minimum annual rental commitments under noncancellable rental lease obligations are as follows:

Year ending December 31, 2026	\$ 26,868
Less: amount representing interest	(122)
Present value of operating lease liabilities	<u>\$ 26,746</u>

9. INVESTMENTS AND FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Items Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

The following table presents the Association's assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2025:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 55,061	\$ -	\$ 55,061
Marketable securities - Equities	369,876	-	369,876
Certificates of deposit	-	11,008,322	11,008,322
	<u>\$ 424,937</u>	<u>\$ 11,008,322</u>	<u>\$ 11,433,259</u>

At December 31, 2025, the Association's certificates of deposit mature at various dates through November 2030 and earn interest at rates ranging from 0.80% to 5.10%. Certificates of deposit are held to maturity.

Investment return is summarized as follows:

Interest and dividends	\$ 628,756
Unrealized gain	138,900
Realized gain	13,822
Investment fees	(5,522)
	<u>\$ 775,956</u>

10. BOARD-DESIGNATED NET ASSETS

As of December 31, 2025, the Association's governing board has designated certain net assets without donor restrictions for specific purposes. These designations are made to support the Association's long-term financial sustainability and strategic initiatives. The board may modify or release these designations at its discretion.

- a. The Capital Reserve Fund was established to be used in times of significant economic hardship that exceed normal cash flow challenges, ensuring the Association's continued operations during crises.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

10. BOARD-DESIGNATED NET ASSETS - CONTINUED

- b. The Capital Investment Fund was established to be used for one-time exigencies such as opportunities to invest in new initiatives or innovations that require significant, discrete investment. Any ongoing costs from these projects should be supported through budget planning.

The board-designated net assets are invested by the Association in accordance with its Board-approved Investment Policy. Investment earnings on these funds are also designated for the same purposes as the underlying principal.

Board-designated net assets as of December 31, 2025 consist of the following:

Capital reserve fund	\$ 11,059,497
Capital investment fund	<u>373,762</u>
	<u>\$ 11,433,259</u>

11. NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Net assets with donor restrictions consists of the following as of December 31, 2025:

	Research Organization Registry	Barcelona Declaration Project	Total
Beginning of the year	\$ 316,335	\$ -	\$ 316,335
Contributions	118,311	145,461	263,772
Releases	<u>(117,940)</u>	<u>(134,919)</u>	<u>(252,859)</u>
End of the year	<u>\$ 316,706</u>	<u>\$ 10,542</u>	<u>\$ 327,248</u>

Research Organization Registry

The Association serves as a fiscal and administrative host for ROR, a community-led initiative operating under a Memorandum of Agreement extended through December 31, 2027, dedicated to developing an open, sustainable, and unique identifier for every research organization in the world. The funds received for ROR are restricted for use in supporting ROR operations and activities.

Barcelona Declaration Project

The Association serves as the fiscal and administrative host for the Barcelona Declaration Project Management Office, a three-year collaborative initiative ending December 31, 2027, jointly governed with Leiden University Centre for Science and Technology Studies ("CWTS") and the SIRIS Foundation. The project supports the shared governance, operations, and management of the Barcelona Declaration Initiative. The funds received for this project are restricted for use in supporting BD Project operations.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

12. RETIREMENT PLAN EXPENSE

The Association sponsors contribution plans for its employees as follows:

The Association sponsors a defined contribution retirement plan for U.S. employees meeting certain eligibility requirements in accordance with Section 401(k) of the IRC. U.S. employee contributions are limited by Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") limitations. The Association provides a matching contribution of 100% of the participants' first 3% of eligible compensation and 50% of the participants' next 2% of eligible compensation and a discretionary profit-sharing contribution of 6%. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the Association contributed \$194,107, of which \$119,922 is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses on the accompanying statement of financial position at December 31, 2025.

Directors and employees in England participate in a defined contribution pension scheme. The scheme is managed and its assets are held by independent managers. The Association may provide a discretionary matching contribution. The Association made employer discretionary matching contributions of 16% for Executive Director and 10% to all other eligible employees totaling \$181,647 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

The Association also made an additional discretionary contribution to one eligible employee for France for the year ended December 31, 2025 amounting to \$9,285.

Twenty two employees located outside of the U.S. and UK participate in defined contribution schemes as is typical in those locations and as may be regulated by the local government. The schemes are managed and the assets are held by independent managers. Most schemes are participatory and all require mandatory contributions by the Association ranging from 2% to 15.7% of employees' salary up to specified limits. In addition, certain of the schemes allow for the Association to make discretionary matching contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the Association made contributions of \$102,950 to these schemes, including discretionary contributions ranging from 3.75% to 10% of eligible employee's salary.

13. CONCENTRATIONS OF RISKS

Credit and Other Risks

The Association maintains its cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, and investments at financial institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Securities Investor Protection Corporation for up to \$250,000 and \$500,000, respectively. The Association's cash and cash equivalents and investments may at times exceed these federally insured limits. The Association has not experienced any losses in such accounts, and management believes that credit risk related to these accounts is minimal.

Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is possible that changes in values of investment securities could occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect investment balances and activity included in the financial statements.

PUBLISHERS INTERNATIONAL LINKING ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

13. CONCENTRATIONS OF RISKS - CONTINUED

Two member organizations accounted for approximately 13% and 27% of the Association's revenue and accounts receivable, respectively, as of December 31, 2025. Management does not believe significant credit risk exists at year end, based on the members' demonstrated history of active involvement in the Association and consistent timely payments of invoices.

One service provider accounted for approximately 87% of the Association's accounts payable as of December 31, 2025. The service provider is paid one per year in arrears at the close of the fiscal year.