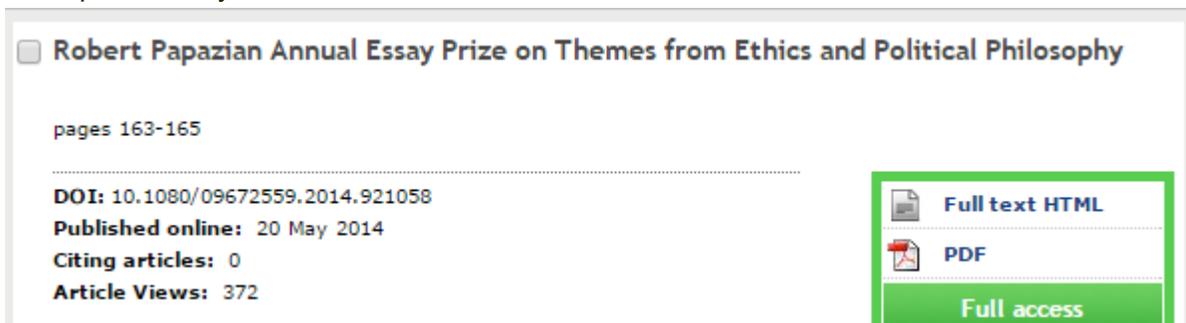# CrossRef

What Is It?

CrossRef (www.crossref.org) is a not-for-profit consortium of primary publishers committed to make reference linking throughout online scholarly literature efficient and reliable. Publishers provide CrossRef with a journal title, volume, issue, article title, page, first author, year, DOI, and URL. The DOI contains a unique publisher prefix and a unique article suffix. CrossRef is also a DOI Registration Agency authorized to register DOIs on behalf of its members.

Example of a DOI: `10.1006` / `jmbi.1998.2354` (prefix / suffix)   the prefix identifies the publisher.

Example of a Taylor and Francis article with article DOI identification:

Robert Papazian Annual Essay Prize on Themes from Ethics and Political Philosophy

pages 163-165

DOI: 10.1080/09672559.2014.921058
Published online: 20 May 2014
Citing articles: 0
Article Views: 372

- Full text HTML
- PDF
- **Full access**

Users will encounter CrossRef in the reference section of an article. This is called reference linking and publishers have provided the DOI information and metadata to CrossRef to enable this linking to prior scholarship.

Example below of Reference Linking from an article in the International Journal of Philosophical Studies; Taylor and Francis. Clicking on CrossRef will provide the user with access to the abstract. To continue to the article the user's request is sent through SFX.

References

1. Dancy, J. (2004) *Ethics without Principles*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. [CrossRef]
2. Kagan, S. (1998) 'Rethinking Intrinsic Value', *The Journal of Ethics* 2(4): 277–97. [CrossRef]
3. Keller, S. (2013) *Partiality*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. [CrossRef]
4. Kolodny, N. (2003) 'Love as Valuing a Relationship', *The Philosophical Review* 112(2): 135–89. [CrossRef], [Web of Science ®]
5. Korsgaard, C. M. (1983) 'Two Distinctions in Goodness', *The Philosophical Review* 92(2): 169–95. [CrossRef], [Web of Science ®]
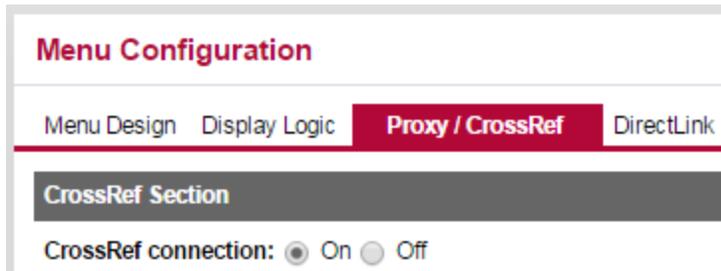
How Might It Relate to SFX?

Although CrossRef offers a persistent linking solution, DOI-based CrossRef linking does not take into account a user's affiliation and therefore does not provide for context-sensitive linking services. However, when used within the SFX framework, a DOI can deliver to the user articles based on access privileges. The OpenURL framework with SFX and the CrossRef framework with DOI are compatible and complementary, and libraries that join CrossRef as affiliates can take full advantage of this synergy. CrossRef library affiliate membership is free of charge.

How Can SFX Be Integrated with CrossRef?

CARLI urges any library with an SFX instance on the CARLI server to take advantage of CrossRef linking. For some Targets, users can be connected from SFX directly to an article-level record only if CrossRef linking has been enabled. Without CrossRef linking, a user might be taken from SFX to a Target's publisher-, title-, volume-, or perhaps issue-level record, but not to its article-level record, even if the user's Source's OpenURL supplied SFX with metadata sufficient to describe an article.

In menu configuration a SFX administrator can turn CrossRef on:

Are there Pros and Cons for Integrating SFX with CrossRef?

<u>Pros</u>
- There are Targets that allow article-level connections **only** with a DOI. These vendors send the DOI instead of the ISSN in the OpenURL created for a citation. In this case, the SFX server queries the CrossRef database for identification and additional metadata, and then uses the information to create its links to the resource.
- Upon receiving an OpenURL from a source (ProQuest, EBSCO,...) the SFX server can send a request to CrossRef which can improve the quality of the metadata available to SFX.
- In resolving broken link errors, you can search from CrossRef.org by entering either article titles, DOI's, ISSN's, author's, etc and analyze the retrieved materials as part of determining the problem.
- You can report a DOI problem from CrossRef.org and the issue will be forwarded to the publisher directly.

<u>Cons</u>
- The reference linking, where a user will see a CrossRef icon next to a citation, is not currently a common practice.

Where Is More Information?

1) Crossref website: http://www.crossref.org/

2) DOI website: http://www.doi.org/

3) CARLI documentation on Crossref: https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/link-resolver-sfx/secure/importance-of-crossref-ver4