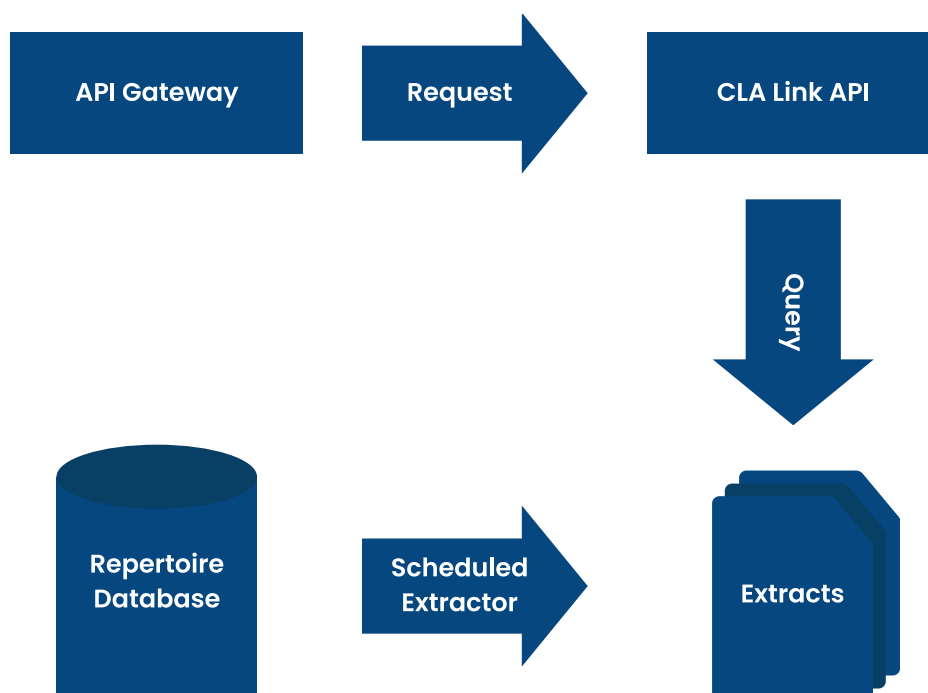# Using the CLA Link API

What is the CLA Link API

The CLA's repertoire database contains details of published material – books, journals, magazines and other types of publication along with details of which publishers currently own the rights to which content.

The CLA regularly sends extracts of this data to its partners.

The CLA Link API allows partners to directly query these data extracts in order to for them retrieve only the subset of the extracted data that is relevant to their systems and in the format that is easiest for them to ingest.

Using the CLA Link API

Partners can use the CLA Link API by sending JSON requests to endpoints under the URL:

https://api.cla.co.uk/cla-link-api

The API is protected by a secure gateway. To use the API, you must provide a subscription key in the HTTP Header ocp-apim-subscription-key with each request made.

If you already have a subscription to another CLA API, your existing subscription key can be given access to the CLA Link API; otherwise, the CLA can create a new key for you.

In a JSON request:

- The properties of an object can be sent in any order, and can be omitted or set to null if they are optional.
- The property names are not case sensitive but property values are.
- The order of array element can have meaning – see the documentation of individual APIs.
- An empty array can have a different meaning to an omitted or null array.

API Requests

Filters

Endpoint	https://api.cla.co.uk/cla-link-api/filters
Method	GET
Query String Arguments	None
Required Headers	ocp-apim-subscription-key
Body	None

The filters endpoint retrieve all the possible values that can be used in the Country, Publication Type and Publishing Status filters when using the Report endpoint.

The existing of a value in the Filters response does not necessarily mean that any records will be returned for a particular report when that filter is used; it just means the value would be accepted as valid by the API.

Valid filters may change over time as CLA staff add to the capabilities of the database.

The JSON response will contain 4 arrays with the possible name/value pairs for each of the 4 filters. When submitting a query to the Get Report API, the value from each pair should be used:

```
{
 "PublicationTypes" :[
     {"Value": "PT1", "Name": "Publication Type 1"},
     {" Value ": " PT1", " Name ": " Publication Type 2"}
],
 "Countries" :[
     {"Value": "C1", "Name": "Country 1"},
     {"Value": "C1", "Name": "Country 2"}
],
     {"PublishingStatuses":[
     {"Value":"PS1", "Name": "Publishing Status 1"},
     {"Value":"PS2", " Name ": "Publishing Status 2"}
]
}
```

Get Report

Endpoint	https://api.cla.co.uk/cla-link-api/report
Method	POST
Query String Arguments	None
Required Headers	ocp-apim-subscription-key
Body	JSON document

The JSON request should be formatted as below:

```
{

    "Report": "Report Name 1",

    "Table": "Table Name 1",

    "ChangeType": ["New", "Changed", "Deleted", "Existing"],

    "Format": "CSV",

    "Columns": ["PLSID", "Title"],

    "AsOfDate": "YYYY-MM-DDTHH:MM:SSZ",

    "PublicationType": [{ "Action": "Include", "Value": "Active"}],

    "Country": [

    {"Action":"Include", "Value": "GB" },

    {"Action":"Include", "Value": "IE" },

 ],

    "PublishingStatus": []

}
```

The **Report, Table, ChangeType** and **Format** fields are mandatory. The others are all optional and may either be set to null values or omitted from the request entirely.

Simple fields

Field	Description	Example Value
Report	The name of the report you wish to retrieve. Your CLA contact will inform you which reports are available to you.	"report name 1"
Table	Each report consists of a set of named tables of data. Your CLA contact will inform you which tables are available to you.	"table name 1"
ChangeType	Defines the types of records you wish to receive: "New" = records created since the previous time this report was published. "Changed" – records that have had either their price to make a copy, or whether they are included in the CLA licence changed since the last time this report was published "Deleted" = Rows that have been deleted from the CLA database since the last time this report was published. "Existing" = Rows that are not new, changed or deleted. You must supply an array of the change types you wish to receive NOTE: The frequency at which each report is published varies by report. Please ask your CLA contact if you need to know the schedule for a particular report.	["New", "Changed"]
Format	The format you wish to receive the response in. Choices are "CSV", "XML" and "JSON". See below for more information.	"JSON"

Columns	The columns you wish to receive in the report. The available set of columns varies by report and table.	["PLS ID", "ISSN"]
	If you wish to receive all available columns, omit this value, set it to null or send an empty array.	
	If you wish to receive a subset of columns, specify the column names in the order you wish them to appear.	
	NOTE 1: Column names should be specified as they appear in the CSV or XML output formats. In the JSON format they are converted to camel case and have spaces removed.	
	NOTE 2: If the table you are retrieving has a "PLS ID" column and you do not specify this in the set of columns you wish to receive, it will prepended as the 1st column. This is always sent as it is needed for diagnostic purposes if you wish to query the results.	
AsOfDate	Allows you to retrieve the data as it stood at a particular data. If this optional field is supplied, data is returned from the extract of the report that is closest to, but before this date.	
	The date should be specified in ISO format of YYYY-MM-DD or YYYY-MM-DDTHH:MM:SSZ	
	Six months of previous data is available via the API.	
	If you specify a date older than the oldest data available, an empty set of records will be returned.	

Basic Filters

The **PublicationType, Country** and **PublishingStatus** fields are simple filters. Each record in the database only has one value for each of these fields.

A filter is an array of JSON objects each with an action attribute and a value attribute:

```
"PublishingStatus": [{

    "Action": "Exclude",

    "Value": "Out of Print"

}],

"Country": [{

    "Action": "Include",

    "Value": "GB"

},

{

    "Action": "Include",

    "Value": "FR"

}]
```

- The possible actions are "Include" and "Exclude".
- The possible values are those returned by the Get Filters endpoint.

If you mix Include and Exclude actions for the same filter, the Include actions will take priority and the Exclude actions will have no effect.

If you send an empty array, it will Include all records.

If you omit a filter from the request, or set it to null, then a default filter will be applied; this filter varies by report and table and is the set of actions the CLA believe to be most meaningful for a given report and table.

Error Handling

The status of a request is sent via the HTTP status code:

Code	Meaning
200	Request is successful. If the response is empty, no data is available that matches the given filters / as-of date.
400	There is a problem with the syntax or the values supplied in the JSON request.
401	No authentication header was provided, or it was not correctly formatted.
403	The subscription provided in the authentication header does not have permission to use this API.
500	The JSON request was valid but an internal error occurred on the CLA system generating the output.
503	The system is temporarily down.

For 400 and 500 error codes, the response will contain a JSON body with a single Message property that contains more details on the cause of the error – e.g.

```
{

        " Message ": " The report Report Name 1 does not exist. "

}
```

Example Requests

Retrieve the latest available version of the "MMO Report Print" table in the "MMO Report Print" report in JSON format with default filters applied:

```
{

    "Report": "MMO Report Printc,

    "Table": "MMO Report Print",

    "ChangeType": ["New", "Changed", "Deleted", "Existing"],

    "Format": "JSON"

}
```

Retrieve only the PLS ID and Title columns from new and changed records in the "MMO Report Digital" table in the "MMO Report Digital" report in XML format, as it stood on 15th Jan 2025 with no filters applied.

NOTE: The PLS ID column is always retrieved if it exists, even when not mentioned in the columns array.

```
{

    "Report": "MMO Report Digital",

    "Table": "MMO Report Digital",

    "ChangeType": [ "New", "Changed" ],

    "Format": "XML",

    "Columns": [ "Title" ]

    "AsOfDate": "2025-01-15T00:00:00Z",

    "PublicationType": [],

    "Country": [],

    "PublishingStatus": []

}
```

Retrieve only deleted records from the "MMO Report Digital" table in the "MMO Report Digital" report in XML format, with the default publication type filters applied, the publishing status of "Out of Print" and the country set to either "GB" or "IE". Only retrieve records that have the tag "A".

```json
{

  "Report": "MMO Report Digital",

  "Table": "MMO Report Digital",

  "ChangeType": ["Deleted"],

  "Format": "XML",

  "PublishingStatus" : [{

    "Action": "Exclude",

    "Value": "Out of Print"

  }],

  "Country" : [{

    "Action": "Include",

    "Value": "GB"

  },{

    "Action": "Include",

    "Value": "IE"

  }]

}
```