



# **IFLA Metadata Newsletter**

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Bibliography Section

Cataloguing Section

Subject Analysis and Access Section

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## About the *IFLA Metadata Newsletter*

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### Ongoing projects, activities, and publications can be found at:

<http://www.ifla.org/bibliography>

<http://www.ifla.org/en/cataloguing>

[https://www.ifla.org/subject-analysis-  
and-access](https://www.ifla.org/subject-analysis-and-access)

**LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS**

Dear colleagues,

The year so far has been rich in online, international conferences around metadata and bibliographic control: the conference on Bibliographic Control in the Digital Ecosystem, organized by the University of Florence in February, the III International Bibliographic Congress, Bibliographic Information in Digital Culture, organized by the State Public Scientific and Technical Library of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Novosibirsk, and, just as we prepare this issue of the Metadata newsletter, the joint webinar organized by our 3 sections, New horizons: emerging metadata standards and practices in the 21st century.

Members of our sections were involved in the organisation of all 3 events, gave presentations, and participated in the extensive, diverse, and inspiring discussions.

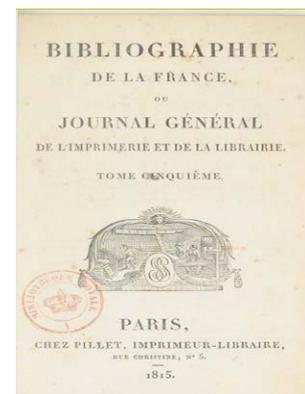
With the new IFLA structure and elections under way, this is a time of renewal. We are looking forward to welcoming new members in our sections, who may carry on some of our planned activities but may also bring new ideas, and we are grateful to our outgoing members for their involvement and contributions over the past years.



**Athena Salaba, Chair of the Subject Analysis and Access Section Standing Committee**



**Vincent Boulet, Chair of the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee**



**Mathilde Koskas, Chair of the Bibliography Section Standing Committee**

**SECTION NEWS****BIBLIOGRAPHY SECTION****What's new in the Bibliography Blog**

By **Pat Riva** (Information Coordinator, Bibliography Section)

The Bibliography Section has restarted [the Bibliography Blog](#) in 2021.

Our recent articles report on conferences and sessions relevant to UBC and national bibliography. We welcome your comments via the Blog, and any ideas for future posts.

**8 March**

["ISNI in Quebec"](#)

by Pat Riva

**30 April**

["Bibliographic Control in the Digital Ecosystem, International Conference, February 8-12, 2021"](#)

by Pat Riva

**3 May**

["Bibliographic Information in Digital Culture, 3rd International Bibliographic Congress, April 27-30, 2021"](#)

by Pat Riva

**5 May**

["Panel on National Bibliographic Resources during the 3rd International Bibliographic Congress, April 28, 2021"](#)

by Pat Riva

**10 May**

["Session 8 during the 3rd International Bibliographic Congress, April 30, 2021"](#)

by Marina Neshcheret

**3 June**

["XXV Anniversary Annual Conference of the Russian Library Association, May 2021"](#)

by Marina Neshcheret

**The National Bibliographic Register, putting national bibliographies in context**

By **Pat Riva** (Information Coordinator, Bibliography Section)

The Bibliography Section maintains a resource gathering descriptions of national bibliographies world-wide, the [National Bibliographic Register \(NBR\)](#). There are 48 profiles, contributed between 2009 and 2020. In addition to making the profiles, as submitted, available by country, the Section decided to set up a system permitting comparative analysis. In an earlier instalment (IFLA Metadata Newsletter, v.3, no.2 (December 2017), p.26-28.), I presented charts on some of the standards used, with data from section 6 of the registry template, based on the 45 profiles contributed at that time. I have been continuing to analyse the entries question by question, and in this instalment present the analysis for sections 3, 5, and part of 4. The charts presented in this article, as well as updated versions of previously published charts, along with the data tables, are available for download on the NBR webpage. In categorizing the responses to carry out the comparative analysis the responses, the detail is necessarily somewhat simplified. I take responsibility for any mistakes in the categorization due to misunderstanding or oversimplifying the responses.

To fully appreciate the context of a specific response, I encourage you to also read the NBR profile online.

### Section 3: Organisation & Administration

The third section of the NBR profile deals with the current structure and organisation supporting the creation of the national bibliography. The first two questions in the section ask which organization in the country is presently the *primary* organization responsible for national bibliographic control, and for its website. This is answered close to unanimously as being the national library (44 of 47 respondents), while 2 respondents indicated that the national bibliographic agency (NBA) is an organization other than the national library, and one country indicated that primary responsibility is divided between the national library and another national bibliographic agency based on the section of the national bibliography. For the purposes of the analysis, the category “national library” was applied to combined national libraries, such as national library and archives, or national and university libraries.

A closely related follow-up question asks: “*What co-operative structures or relationships exist supporting the production of the national bibliography?*” These can be formal or informal relationships, and may apply only to some aspects of national bibliographic control, such as for a hard-to-collect type of materials, or for the constitution of a retrospective bibliography. Of the 43 countries that responded to this question, 16 (37%) responded that there were no current cooperative structures beyond the NBA itself. Considering the context of the full profiles, it is probable that the 5 countries that did not answer this question (all of whom answered that the national library is the primary national bibliographic agency) also have no additional cooperative structures.

The responses are seen in the graph *Cooperative Structures Supporting the NBA* (figure 1)

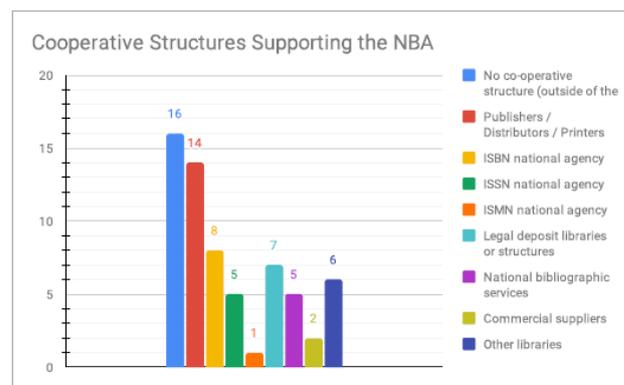


Figure 1. *Cooperative Structures Supporting the NBA*, n=43

This question asks specifically for cooperative relationships outside of the NBA itself, leading 20 respondents to explicitly mention that the national library is the national agency for the assignment of one or more of the international standard numbers (ISBN, ISSN, ISMN). Since it was not specifically asked, even more national libraries may be international standard number assignment agencies. This also explains why only 8 respondents mentioned cooperation with an ISBN or ISSN agency, as this would refer to cooperation with an agency that is not part of the NBA itself. Of 27 countries (56%) that reported one or more cooperative supporting relationship, 8 mentioned the national ISBN agency, 5 also mentioned the ISSN agency, and one of these also mentioned the ISMN assignment agency.

In total, 48 different types of cooperative structures or relationships were highlighted by these 27 respondents. The most frequent, 14 responses, is cooperation with publishers/distributors/printers or national associations of publishers or for the book-trade. Cooperation with legal deposit libraries (other than the NBA) was listed by 7 respondents, and 6 mentioned cooperation with specific other libraries not described as part of the national legal deposit network. Various described national bibliographic services or databases were mentioned by 5 respondents, and 2 indicated specific relationships with commercial entities for specific aspects of their

national

bibliography.

See the graph *Types of Cooperative Structures* (figure 2) for the breakdown.

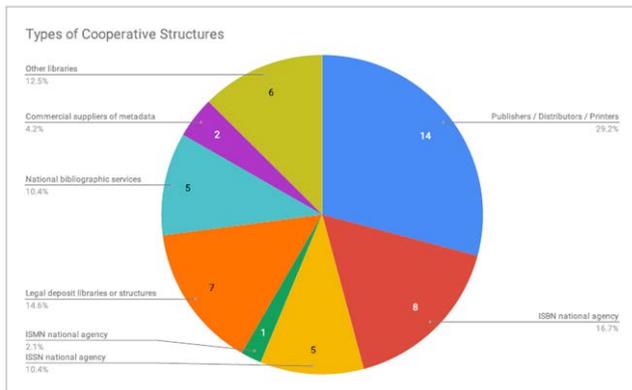


Figure 2. *Types of Cooperative Structures*, n=4

The seemingly simple question: *“Is the national bibliography a single integrated system or multiple categorised bibliographies?”* required some interpretation. For former print bibliographies the answers would have been clear-cut, but while many of the current online bibliographies retain traces of their previous section structure, others have become fully integrated. In reviewing the responses, I attempted to distinguish between systems that include an access method by broad class of materials but are otherwise a fully integrated publication with integrated indexes, from bibliographies viewed as a single resource but issued in different sections, parts, or series according to material type. If the sections, etc. have different update frequencies (as reported in the question on frequency of service updates, in section 4), the bibliography was categorised as “multiple”. However, when different publication frequencies were reported for different products (for example, a frequency given as monthly with an annual cumulation, or a weekly MARC file extracted from a continuously updated database, or a “new titles” file) the response was still categorised as a single integrated bibliography. If different resource types are described as being stored in different databases (whether distinct URLs are given or not), the response was considered “multiple” even if a discovery layer is offered to allow unified searching

of all materials. Of 47 respondents, 26 (55.3%) offer a single integrated bibliography, while 21 (44.7%) offer multiple distinct sections under this analysis.

The rest of this section explores metadata workflow contributing to the creation of the national bibliography, first by asking about the sources of metadata used. All of the 47 respondents create bibliographic data for the national bibliography within the national library or NBA; 26 (55.3%) do not use any other sources. There are 29 other sources mentioned by the 21 respondents that supplement their in-house data creation, which is always the most significant source. The sources are illustrated in the graph *Sources of Bibliographic Metadata* (figure 3).

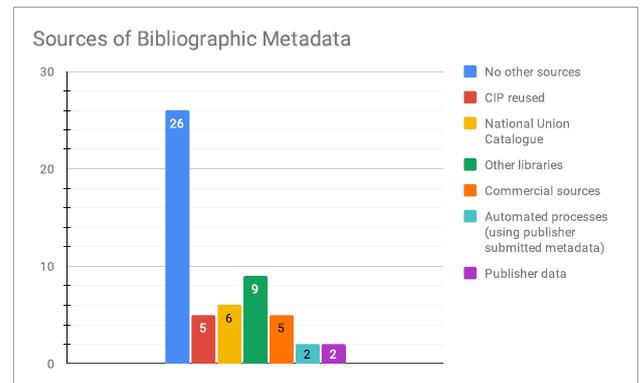


Figure 3. *Sources of Bibliographic Metadata*, n=55

Derivation from other libraries (either libraries with specific cooperating relationships or in general) was mentioned by 9 respondents, another 6 derived records contributed to a national union catalogue or national database. Commercial sources of metadata are used by 5 respondents, and 4 use publisher data. Of these, 2 use automated processes for ingesting publisher data, and 2 did not specify how the publisher data is ingested. Re-use of CIP data was mentioned by 5 respondents, although in comparing with the final question of this section, it is possible that CIP was considered as part of in-house data creation by other NBAs that are also responsible for producing the CIP data. Several libraries mentioned aspects of their workflow in data creation, for instance, explaining that the bibliographic data is

first created in the national library's database, or the national union database, and then extracted to form the national bibliography.

Legal deposit is important in the constitution of national bibliographies and the next question asks: "Is the material included received by the NBA under national legal deposit legislation?" All 47 respondents answered that the materials described in the national bibliography are predominantly or exclusively received by the NBA through legal deposit. Some phrased it in the other direction, stating that all materials subject to legal deposit are included in the national bibliography. No respondent reported voluntary deposit arrangements for the core materials of the national bibliography. Additionally, 4 respondents specified that the national bibliography also includes "related" materials published outside the country that could not be subject to legal deposit and which have to be purchased or received by other means; although more than 4 respondents reported a "related" materials database or section elsewhere in their NBR profile. Some responses provided more detail and specified that some materials that are included in the national bibliography are received by purchase, gift, or exchange; one receives pre-publication books directly from the bookselling industry.

Web harvesting of the national domain was mentioned by 2 respondents as additional to legal deposit requirements. This is unlikely to be a complete account of web harvesting activities, as some countries may have web harvesting programs that they do not view as being part of the national bibliography, and 3 respondents specifically mentioned that their current legal deposit framework includes web resources.

The final question in this section investigates the relationship between national Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) programs and the NBA and national bibliography. There were answers for 47 countries, 21 (43.8%) of which reported that there is no national CIP program in their country. The CIP programs reported differ in their scope of coverage,

however, details were not requested. For the countries that do have CIP programs, the program is coordinated by the NBA in 24 countries, while managed entirely by another agency in 2 countries. These agencies include other government units or commercial providers. For one country, the CIP program is managed by the NBA, however, a commercial provider contributes pre-publication metadata, and both responses are counted in the graph. In 2 countries, the NBA cooperates in the production of CIP records with another library, this is not shown in the graph.

The graph *Relationship of CIP to National Bibliographic Agency* (figure 4) provides a summary.

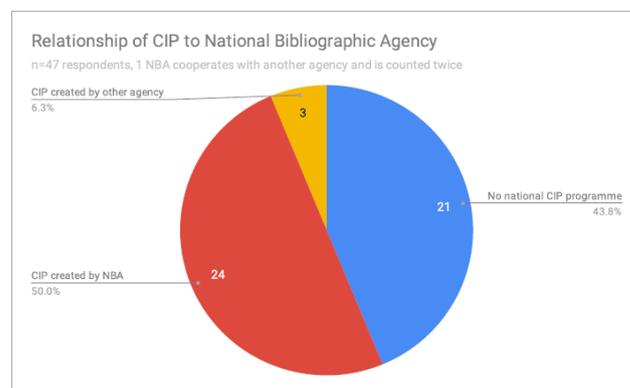


Figure 4. *Relationship of CIP to National Bibliographic Agency, n=47*

Of the 26 countries that reported a national CIP program, 10 specified that they do not include the CIP records in the national bibliography. In those cases, respondents sometimes stated that the CIP records may be found in a separate "forthcoming books" listing or in a separate cumulative online database. Comparing with responses to the earlier question on sources of bibliographic metadata, an additional 5 described that the CIP records form the basis of the national bibliography record and are completed when the resource is received by the NBA. The remaining 11 did not give any details of how their CIP records are used or distributed, which was not explicitly asked.

In 2004 the Bibliography Section sponsored a survey of national CIP programs that was carried out by the Library of Congress and reported on at the 70th IFLA World Library and Information Congress, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. See the report "[Survey of National CIP Programs: Results and Analysis](#)" by John Cello and Beacher Wiggins,. [The site with the original survey and data](#) is still online at: [I](#). For interest, I compared responses in 2004 to the NBR. Of the 42 national libraries that responded to the 2004 CIP survey, 28 (67%) have also contributed to the NBR. The existence of CIP programs is quite stable. In 2004, 16 of these 28 reported managing a CIP program, only one (Sweden) seems to have discontinued a CIP program that it reported in 2004. Conversely, one country (China) did not report a CIP program in 2004, but in the NBR pointed to a program that is separate from the national bibliography and managed by another government department. This discrepancy is possible due to the wording of the 2004 survey, which might seem to exclude this sort of CIP arrangement. Comparing results in this way did in some cases help clarify the NBR responses to this question. The scope of the 2004 survey does not permit other comparisons as it did not ask about the relationship of CIP to the national bibliography, nor whether CIP records are considered part of the national bibliography.

**Section 4: Services & Usage**

This section of the NBR profile covers aspects of how the national bibliography is distributed online. The third and fourth questions concern special features of online interfaces to the national bibliography. The remaining questions from this section will be discussed in a future instalment.

There were 44 responses to the question asking *whether metadata enhancements are offered via online services*, with 19 (43%) respondents offering some form of metadata enhancements, 17 (38.5%) not offering any, while another 8 (18%) were planning to offer some form of metadata enhancement in the future, as presented in the graph *Metadata Enhancements Offered* (figure 5).

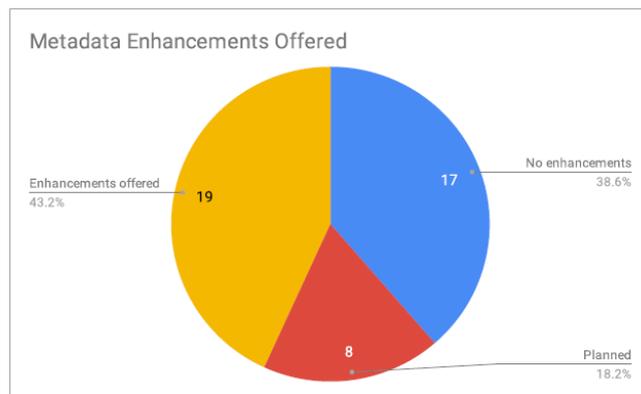


Figure 5. Metadata Enhancements Offered, n=44

Respondents also indicated the nature of the metadata enhancements offered. Frequently more than one type is offered, resulting in 39 responses from the 19 countries that offer metadata enhancements. The most frequently mentioned, equally at 12 responses each, are book jacket/book cover images, and tables of contents. The next, at 4 responses, is links to digitized documents, sometimes including full text. Mentioned by 3 respondents each are abstracts or summaries, annotations, and reviews. Single responses indicated QR codes and a recommender service based on circulation data. This is summarized in the chart *Types of Metadata Enhancements Offered* (figure 6)

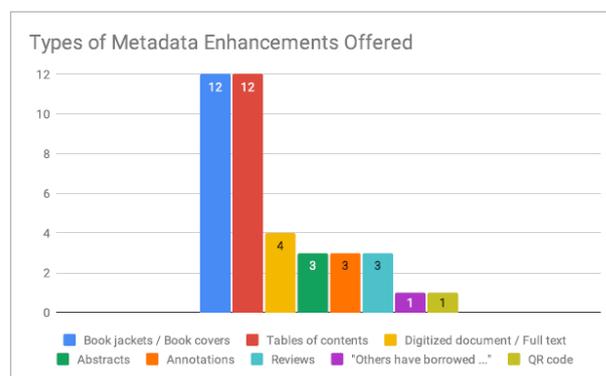


Figure 6. Types of Metadata Enhancements Offered, n=39

The question on *Web 2.0 services offered* is the one most frequently not answered in the profile questionnaire, with 9 of 48 respondents not completing it, while 36 respondents (75%) indicated that no Web 2.0 services were offered within the

national bibliography. Only 3 countries listed Web 2.0 services offered at the time of answering, consisting of user reviews (2 mentions), user comments, user ratings, and user tagging. Of the respondents not offering Web. 2.0 services, 7 indicated these were planned for future deployment. As countries update their profiles it will be interesting to see whether these planned services are in fact offered, or whether plans change. It may be that integrating Web 2.0 services into catalogues was a brief trend rather than a new approach that eventually becomes part of the mainstream. One respondent indicated that Web 2.0 services are offered via the national portal rather than directly in the national bibliography, which may indicate that different interfaces are viewed as having different roles and expected levels of user engagement. In a related sphere, one respondent pointed to the NBA's social media presence. It is surely the case that other NBAs are engaging their users in this fashion, but no question in the profile explicitly asked for this information.

Q 4d – Web 2.0 Services	Responses	Percent %
No response	9	19%
None	36	75%
Yes	3	6%
<b>Total responses (countries)</b>	<b>48</b>	

### Section 5: Business Model

Section 5 of the National Bibliography Register profile concerns business models for national bibliographies and national bibliographic services. The first question is on pricing policy for national bibliographic services. In answer to the question *“Does the national bibliography operate on a for-profit, cost recovery, or free basis?”* 41 of the 47 respondents indicated that the national bibliography

was made available for free. However, 12 of these respondents provided multiple answers, as different cost models apply depending on the services. For these 12 countries, the basic online national bibliography is freely available, but some additional services are priced. The remaining 6 countries indicated that all services operated on a cost-recovery basis. It is interesting to note that none of the respondents consider the national bibliography to be provided solely on a for-profit basis.

Q 5a – Pricing Models	Responses	Percent %
All free	29	62%
Free & priced services	12	25%
All cost recovery	6	13%
<b>Total responses (countries)</b>	<b>47</b>	

In all, counting multiple answers, 60 different responses are considered in the graph of *Pricing Models for National Bibliographic Services* (figure 7). In total, 41 (68%) indicated that some or all services are freely available, 14 (23%) respondents indicated that a cost recovery model operated for some or all services, while 4 (6.7%) described subscription models for some services, and one respondent described a membership model that applied to private libraries (as opposed to publicly-funded libraries). The subscription models were sometimes described as for-profit, sometimes as essentially cost-recovery.

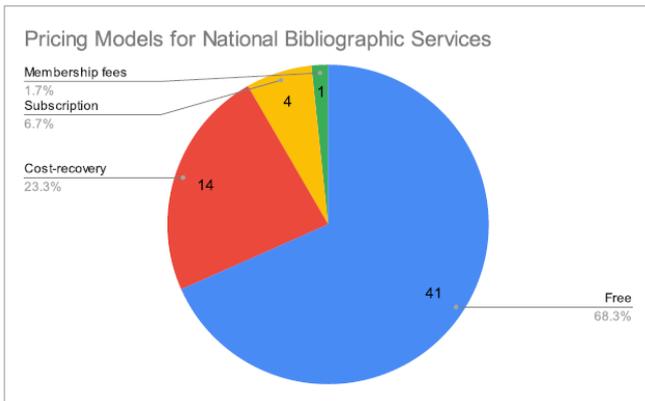


Figure 7. Pricing Models for National Bibliographic Services, n=60

Looking in more detail at the types of services that are not offered for free, presented in the graph *For-charge Services* (figure 8), there are a few recurring situations. Print or CD distribution of the national bibliography is offered by subscription or cost-recovery, although the online version is freely available (4 responses). Distribution of the full MARC file of all national bibliography records is offered by subscription (for-profit) or cost-recovery (3 responses). Finally, another 4 respondents indicated that extraction of custom record sets or other special services that required staff intervention were offered on a cost-recovery basis.

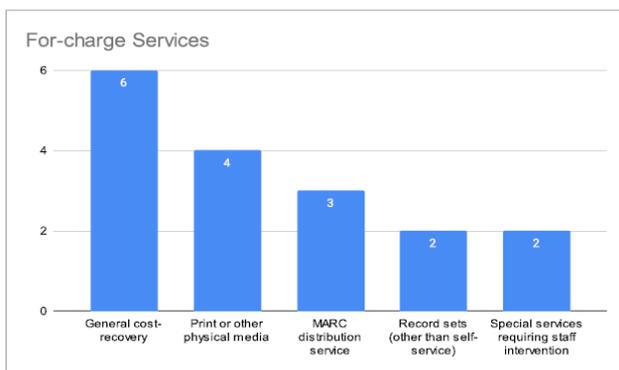


Figure 8. For-charge Services, n=17

Another way to approach the pricing model was mentioned by two countries: offering free services to publicly funded libraries, but priced services to other kinds of libraries or to commercial entities seeking to

re-sell products based on the national bibliography records.

The other question in section 5 concerns the conditions applicable to the re-use of the national bibliography metadata, asking: *“Is all national bibliographic metadata released into the public domain without restriction or are users required to comply with licensing or redistribution arrangements etc?”*

This question was answered by 44 countries. For 4 countries (9% of respondents) the question is not applicable because the national bibliography metadata is not accessible outside the NBA in a machine-processable format. The majority, 25 respondents (56.8%), stated that the metadata was released into the public domain or was freely available without restriction. For 3 respondents there is an exception for for-profit businesses, but otherwise metadata is in the public domain. Another 2 explicitly use a CC0 (public domain) license, and 2 more said that re-use is permitted. In total, 32 respondents (72%), offer their metadata for re-use without restriction.

For the 8 countries (18%) that have conditions on metadata re-use, 2 respondents each described their restrictions as: attribution of source required (similar to CC BY), non-commercial use with attribution of source (similar to CC BY-NC), non-commercial use only, and finally 2 countries have a national license on their metadata applicable to all cases of re-use, although the conditions of the license were not described. All these responses are summarized in the graph *Availability of Metadata for Re-use* (figure 9).

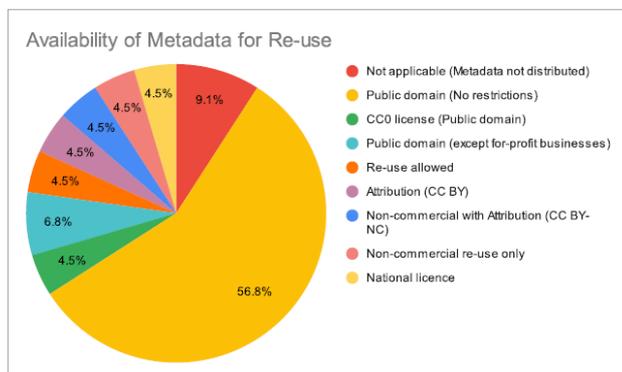


Figure 9. Availability of Metadata for Re-use, n=44

Note that the data presented in this discussion and all these charts is valid as of the dates of the individual responses currently on file. Over time aspects of national bibliographies evolve and the Bibliography Section appreciates your help in keeping the profile for your bibliography up-to-date. New profile submissions and updates to existing profiles are very welcome at any time.

## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

### NEWS FROM BELGIUM

By **Maud Henry**, Data Operator at the Bibliographic Information Agency, KBR (Royal Library of Belgium)

and

**Ann Van Camp**, Scientific Staff of the Contemporary Collections, KBR (Royal Library of Belgium)

#### Cataloguing practices during the Covid crisis at KBR (Royal Library of Belgium)

During this health crisis, a whole series of measures have been decided by the Belgian Government, including the compulsory teleworking- working from home, whenever feasible. Cataloguers at the Bibliographic Information Agency have gone from 100% teleworking during lockdown to a balance of

80% at home and 20% on site. The first step was to urgently identify tasks that could be done remotely this included: the intensification of the cataloguing of e-books, enriching and improving records in the integrated library system, authority data control operation, and so forth. Although useful, this did not allow for the bibliographic processing of printed material coming in via the legal deposit or acquisitions. This put the accuracy of the monthly publication of the Bibliography of Belgium in question, which required a quick and practical solution to be found to ensure this service.

#### Could we catalog at home without the book in front of us, using the existing data?

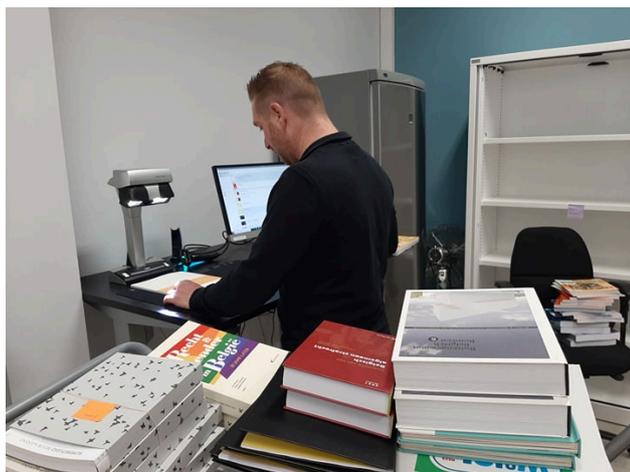
Publishers and depositing authors can use our [legal deposit portal](#) to fill in their deposit declaration on a voluntary basis. KBR also receives data from the Boekenbank- the platform for the book trade in Flanders. All this data is transformed, imported and structured into pre-records. This allows us to register the deposit of books as soon as they arrive and to better manage claims to publishers and authors. The depositors can also track the processing of their deposit online.

Cataloguing remotely on the basis of those pre-records depends directly on the quality of imports and their conformity to standards and practices, the degree of completeness and the ability to quickly find additional information if needed. Tests have been carried out and are continuing to develop a method that ensures timely-ness and consistency.

#### Minimal book scanning

While we were working on increasing and improving the quality of this data retrieved from external sources, we implemented a strict minimal scanning procedure for books (about 4 pages). We are considering structural management and data capture with intelligent optical character recognition (OCR) but at this stage, the Bibliographic Information Agency alone manages the preparation of the batches, both the scanning operation and the

bibliographic treatment. It is a significant change in the approach and way of working which requires support of the employees to document and train them on this process, as well as monitoring. Appropriate scanning equipment has been purchased in cooperation with the Digitization Department, and laptops and additional screens were made available to the employees to work from home.



*(Minimal book scanning. Photo courtesy of Maud Henry)*

Using this new process of remote cataloguing during the pandemic to ensure the teleworking requirements and balance the legal requirements of cataloguing Belgian authored books has given successful results: the internal book processing circuit being improved and the backlog has almost been eliminated as productivity has increased by about 40%. Consequently, legal deposit, acquisitions and donations have also been integrated into the same processing chain.

### Hybrid cataloguing

We will soon be ready to begin a phase of hybrid remote cataloguing: cataloguing based on more existing and enhanced data (no scan or the title page only, depending on the source) and for books without existing data, further minimal scanning.

Although these developments were expected, we can state that the teleworking regulations related to COVID have played a real role as a catalyst in the process of dematerialization and automation of cataloguing.

### New management of authority data

KBR has launched a systematic and exhaustive authority data control operation.

First, we have drawn up authority data template sheets (i.e. personal names and corporate names). These templates are based on international standards, ensuring possible data exchange with third parties, and taking also into account the Belgian specificities.

They reflect the choices that have been made in terms of completeness of the information by indicating field-by-field what is considered mandatory or optional. This specifies the manner in which this information should be encoded in the catalogue.

Secondly, a systematic verification of authority data was launched to complete the existing thesaurus and clean it up (e.g. removal of duplicates, corrections), beginning with the Belgian entries.

At the same time, a cross-sectional working group composed of representatives of the heritage sections at KBR (i.e. manuscripts, rare books, music, etc...) was formed in order to benefit from all their expertise regarding the specific features of the documents held at KBR.

The goal is that by summer 2021, basic data authority (a selection of marc21 fields) will be indexed and available through [KBR's online catalogue](#).

### ISNI

Since October 2020, KBR has been licensed by the ISNI International Agency as an ISNI registration agency. ISNI stands for *International Standard Name*

*Identifier* (ISO 27729) and is the ISO certified global standard number for uniquely identifying contributors to creative works, including writers, publishers, researchers, artists, etc. The use of ISNI offers many affordances: it guarantees a reliable identification and resolves the problem of name ambiguity in search and discovery, it also enables machine readable and language independent data exchange, and – being widely diffused on the open web as a bridge identifier across multiple domains – it has become a critical component in Linked Data and Semantic Web applications.

KBR plans to integrate ISNIs into its entire thesaurus of public identities, covering contributors to not only of the [Contemporary printed books](#) and the national [Bibliography of Belgium](#), but also to [Manuscripts](#), [music](#), [newspapers](#), [Maps and plans](#), [Coins and medals](#), [Prints](#), and its [Rare books](#) collections.

Moreover, KBR has initiated a networking project 'LOD-ISNI', funded by the Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO), that aims to promote the use of ISNIs within Linked Open Data. The international project team includes partner organizations ISNI-IA, the US Library of Congress, Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec, the British Library, OCLC, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek in the Netherlands, plus the Universities of Ghent and Antwerp. Their activities bring emphasis to the importance of LOD and ISNI in making cultural heritage more accessible worldwide. To find out more about this project 'Linked Open Data and ISNI as a crucial bridge identifier for cultural heritage' (LOD-ISNI) in your preferred language here: [English](#), [Dutch](#), [French](#). Further information will be added to these webpages as the project progresses.

## NEWS FROM CANADA

By **Bernard Bérubé**, Cataloguing Librarian, Library and Archives Canada  
and  
**Nathalie Mainville**, Senior Librarian, Library and Archives Canada

## First Steps for the Francophone Name Authority Program

In spring 2020, Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) and 15 French-language Quebec libraries in the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI), joined together to create the Francophone Name Authority Program (Programme francophone des autorités de noms, PFAN). This initiative makes it possible to share a common French-language authority file, saving time and offering benefits to all participants.

PFAN aims to provide a shared repository that combines the work of a community of institutions under the umbrella of a set of common practices. This type of collaboration reduces the number of standardization stages between institutions, facilitates exchanges, enriches the available data and decentralizes efforts. It should also reduce the work required to maintain this type of file.

This program is based on NACO's documentation and structure. A steering committee ensures planning and supervision, while a standards committee drafts and updates guidelines for the authorities' contributions to the French file, in addition to offering support to participants for the application of standards.

Following many months of discussion, consultation and work, PFAN officially launched in June 2020. There had been several significant milestones in this important project.

For starters, the adoption of OCLC's WorldShare Management Services system by the libraries of the BCI gave a major impetus to the project. With the general structure sketched out, the committees formed and the initial agreement signed, the first steps in establishing the program accelerated over the winter of 2020. Among others, a four-and-a-half-day training was completed online by some 100 cataloguers from all of the institutions in the program.

Then on June 2, the program participants added their name authorities to the Canadiana file, previously

managed exclusively by LAC. This meant 1.4 million new records in Canadiana, which already had over 650,000 records.

### A unique project

The creation of PFAN centred on the Canadiana file is a major project in the Francophone documentary processing community in Canada. There are 17 institutions currently involved in the program. While for now, PFAN includes only Canadian partners, in future, the project would like to work with international partners. In the long term, it will enable both present and future participants to benefit from a richer file for all, with less effort from everyone.

## NEWS FROM CHINA

### The Portuguese Language Resources Hub links China with Lusophone countries

By **Priscilla Pun**, Head of Technical Process Unit, University of Macau Library

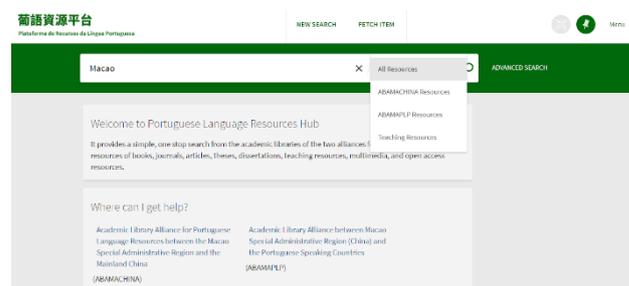


To celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University of Macau in 2021, *the Conference on Service Innovation and Portuguese Language Resources Sharing in University Libraries* is planned to be held in the UM Library in the second half year of 2021. The Event also aligns with [the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area](#) issued by China Government on 18 February 2019, which aims at developing Macao into a world-class tourism and leisure centre, as well as a commerce and trade cooperation service platform between China and Lusophone countries.

Two alliances will be formed during the Event, namely, *the Academic Library Alliance between the Macao Special Administrative Region (China) and the*

*Portuguese-speaking Countries* (with 20 library members from Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, East Timor and Macao), and *the Academic Library Alliance for Portuguese Language Resources Between Macao Special Administrative Region and Mainland China* (with 21 member libraries from China, including 4 libraries from Macao). The founding of the two alliances intends to enhance the cooperation and resource sharing among the academic libraries, as well as Portuguese language teaching and learning between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Associated with the founding of the two alliances, the *Portuguese Language Resources Hub* will be launched as well. The Hub will serve as a union catalogue and information services platform (including inter-library loans and document delivery services) among members of the above-mentioned two alliances. It plans to include resources in Portuguese language collected by the member libraries in mainland China, Portuguese language teaching resources of the relevant universities, and online open access resources. The Hub currently holds about 50,000 book titles collected from libraries in mainland China and Macao. More resources will be collected from the libraries in the Portuguese-speaking countries at a later phase. It is hoped that the Hub could help in providing a communication platform and promoting international cooperation among the academic libraries and community members between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.



*The Portuguese Language Resources Hub*

## NEWS FROM COLOMBIA

By **Maria Camila Restrepo Fernandez**, Professor of Library and Information Science at Universidad de Antioquia (Medellín, Colombia)

### Innovative educational services



The Interamerican School of Librarianship (Medellín, Colombia) continues offering training on Big Data, the purpose of this educational offering is teaching abilities on data analysis and data management to librarians and professionals enrolled in Information science. This course is provided for the very first time on april-june 2021, the objective is to establish it as a regular educational service for librarians and specialists in the LAC region.

### Research projects

The research “State of archival terminology in Colombia” conducted by Dra. María Teresa Múnera Torres, created a terminology for archival studies on Colombia. The terminology could be queried on <http://bibliotecologia.udea.edu.co/terminologia/sitio/> The main objective is extending the terminology over Library and information science, Museology and Documentación.

### Equivalencias

Equivalente: arquivo permanente

Idioma: Portugués

Fuente: Arquivo Nacional de Brasil. (2005). Arquivo permanente. En Dicionário brasileiro de terminologia arquivística. Rio de Janeiro, Brasil. Recuperado de: [http://www.arquivonacional.gov.br/images/pdf/Dicion\\_Term\\_Arquiv.pdf](http://www.arquivonacional.gov.br/images/pdf/Dicion_Term_Arquiv.pdf). Consultado em: 24/11/2018.

Equivalente: archive

Idioma: Inglés

Fuente: Pearce-Moses, R. (2005). Archive. In A glossary of Archival and Records Terminology. Chicago: Society of American Archivists. Recovered from: <http://www.chismechick.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/SAA-Glossary-2005.pdf>. Consulted in: 10/05/2019

Source:

<https://revistas.udea.edu.co/index.php/RIB/article/view/339271/20795002>

### RDA on academic curricula

The Interamerican School of Librarianship (Medellín, Colombia) is working on developing a new curricula for the program on Library and information science since 2019, currently the discussion have focused on the inclusion of RDA training as fundamental for the students, the discussion is not finished, there are some questions about the importance and outcomes of replace AACR2, because the transition of libraries in between AACR2 to RDA has been really slow since the translation of RDA into Spanish by Rojas Eberhard Editores in 2011.

## NEWS FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC

### Czech National Bibliography and re-use of bibliographic records

By **Edita Lichtenbergová**, National Library of the Czech Republic

The Czech National Bibliography (CNB) plays a significant role in coordination of a number of Czech projects. Therefore, it is important that CNB is complete and that records are created as quickly as possible.

The timeliness of the bibliography is often a problem. The CNB is based on legal deposit and the one-month deadline for its submission, or even exceeding it by publishers, are obstacles to fast processing it. Since 2007 CNB has been a result of cooperation of three Czech libraries with full legal deposit – the National Library of the CR, Moravian Library in Brno and Research Library in Olomouc. The result was limited by legal deposit and served as a good resource of records mainly for research libraries. The timeliness was not sufficient for smaller public libraries, which had to continue in original cataloguing, and so there were often unwanted duplicities and multiplicities in other significant Czech projects, e.g. the Union Catalog of the Czech Republic or Knihovny.cz portal. Therefore, in 2019, cooperation was initiated with the largest municipal library in the Czech Republic - the Municipal Library in Prague (MLP), which joined the libraries cooperating on the basis of the legal deposit. The MLP contributes records for the fiction it has purchased for its readers. The involvement of the libraries was very demanding, the city library had to move to the full level of cataloging, speed up the acquisition processes, the technical solution and coordination by the National Library of the Czech Republic was also necessary, harmonization is still ongoing. The result of the cooperation is the earlier presence of quality records (ca 3500 per year) in the Czech National Bibliography and other resources used for copy-cataloging. In addition, records for fiction are enriched by annotations which was another requirement of public libraries that CNB could not meet before. During 2019 - 2020 the NL CR gained important information about legal deposit publishers didn't send (almost 100 books), or sent with a long delay (1200 publications). The survey among public libraries confirmed that they now consider the speed of adding records to CNB to be satisfactory (98%).

The CNB plays also an important role in coordination of digitization projects in the Czech Republic, it places great emphasis on the completeness and accuracy of older layers of CNB. Unique identifiers in CNB are used for reporting publications to the Digitization Register that collects information about digitization from public funds. In the past, there were missing titles in CNB, which the NL CR completes now

through retrospective acquisition, but also thanks to reports from libraries that want to digitize the publication. Part of the process is a thorough search of databases and comparison of publications to avoid duplication, hundreds of records got this way to the CNB each year, the number depends on the extent of running projects and digitization capacities.

Czech libraries do not only digitize, but also want to present the results of digitization. National legislation and licenses allow them to publish the digitalized out-of-print books and periodicals therefore since 2020, it is the duty of the National Library of the Czech Republic to keep a list of works not available on the market - out-of-print books and periodicals. The basis of the list is taken from CNB – records for works published before 1989 that are not published in new editions available on the market. The NL CR receives further proposals from the Czech libraries for inclusion of newer works, the libraries send records in order to supplement works that they have digitized and they are not available on the market. The identification is enabled by the CNB number again.

Further use of the national bibliography is logical and effective, but at the same time it places new demands on the quality of data. Sometimes it can be the addition of annotations, other times the requirement e.g. to formalize other data. It is already clear that we are succeeding in supplementing some data (for example, we have been retroactively adding authority headings for almost 20 years), others (for example, missing statements in records from retrospective conversion) should be edited and the NL CR must find capacity for these activities.

## NEWS FROM FINLAND

By **Katri Kananen**, Head of Services, National Bibliography Services, the National Library of Finland  
and

**Satu Niininen**, Information Specialist, National Bibliography Services, the National Library of Finland

### Revising processes for online materials

Rapid changes in the information environment have created an urgent need for national bibliographies to respond to the opportunities as well as challenges posed by new publication formats and emerging digital media. At the National Library of Finland we have focused on finding new ways to re-use pre-existing metadata and to better define which online materials are recorded in the national bibliography and which can be made available elsewhere.



*The National Library of Finland, Cupola Hall (by Marko Oja, CC BY-NC 4.0)*

### Background

The Finnish national bibliography describes materials newly published or distributed in Finland and deposited to the National Library of Finland under the Act on Collecting and Preserving Cultural Materials. The act covers both traditional analogue materials and digital publications. Publications described in the national bibliography include monographs, serials, maps, games, sound recordings and sheet music regardless of their publication format. Harvested web pages and printed ephemera

are only described as collection-level records whereas master's thesis and videos are excluded altogether.

We collect publicly available online materials using an automated collection software in an annual harvest and through thematic harvests that focus on a particular topic (important or unexpected affairs and events etc.) or media type (podcasts, tweets). We may also request an online publisher or aggregator to deposit materials if automatic harvesting is not possible. Materials received through deposits from online publishers include electronic books and magazines, publication series, government publications, maps, online games, music recordings and sheet music. For publications covered by the legal deposit requirement, we also request that the related metadata be deposited, primarily in the metadata formats commonly used in the publishing industry (e.g., Dublin Core or ONIX).

### Better workflows for online publications

The cataloguing process of electronic books is currently under revision. We are working towards developing fully automated workflows for handling all electronic legal deposits that include ONIX metadata. The new practices will allow us to simultaneously submit the cataloging data to national bibliography and the deposited publications to the legal deposit repository. The process involves a record import system that converts the deposited ONIX into MARC 21 records and imports them into a collaborative metadata repository ([Melinda](#)) which is also the cataloging environment of the national bibliography. We also want to enrich the converted records with specific metadata elements (e.g. classification, subject indexing, agent data) from the records of corresponding printed books which are catalogued manually. The automatically generated records include a link to the legal deposit repository where the publication can be accessed through legal deposit workstations.

The ONIX conversion is already in production use, although some functionalities are still in

development. Particularly the import system has been a challenging task to develop because the collaborative metadata repository includes over 16 million records from over 170 different organizations and with such a complex environment the matching and merging of records is not an easy task.

We also have a similar Dublin Core to MARC 21 conversion and record import process currently in development for metadata and publications harvested from institutional repositories.

### New publication formats

Although all online resources cannot be included in the national bibliography as individual records, they still need to be made available for the public as a part of the digital legal deposit collection and provided with metadata sufficient for customer use, collection maintenance and long-term preservation. We are currently looking into different ways to process online materials that are excluded from the national bibliography such as journals, articles and theses. As these materials come from a variety of different sources, their pre-existing metadata is quite diverse in terms of quality and exhaustiveness. With most of our staff members working from home throughout the pandemic, the national bibliographic agency has been able to put more effort into manual cataloging of online materials as they can be easily accessed when working remotely. During the past year we have begun cataloging a collection of online games from the late 1990's and early 2000's which we received as legal deposits some ten years ago. The games represent an important piece of Finnish game development history and would probably be lost unless collected and recorded in the national bibliography. We have been cataloging new digital games since 2015 but retrospective cataloging is not something we usually have resources for so accomplishments like this have really been the silver lining of a very challenging year

### International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI)

By **Katerina Sornova**, Agent Metadata Services, National Library of Finland

*Note: Part of this article was published in the December issue. This is the full article.*

National Library of Finland (NLF) has become ISNI Registration Agency in June 2020. As the Registration Agency we can request new ISNI assignments from the ISNI Assignment Agency and provide ISNI related services to our customers. You can find basic information about ISNI and NLF's ISNI services on our new [website](#) (only in Finnish).



*Photo courtesy of Katerina Sornova*

The coverage of the ISNIs for public identities in Finnish Authority Name File is almost 80 %. We are working on increasing this number by enriching the data we have in our catalogue. ISNIs can be picked up for example from [KANTO - Finnish Agent Data Service](#) via open interface.

We still have to work on ISNI processes. How can we automate them as much as possible and how the ISNIs can be smoothly included in cataloguing workflows. At the same time we are looking for partners among publishers and copyright organisation for a broader implementation of ISNI.

In November 2020 we arranged ISNI webinar for publishers together with colleagues from The British Library and ISNI International Agency (ISNI-IA). You can find program and slides on our [webinar's website](#) (mostly in Finnish, part of the slides in English). We have to figure out, how we share data from MARC 21 to ONIX and how we match the ISNIs we have in our database with the publisher's registries. ONIX (Online Information Exchange) is the publisher's tool for distributing information about their publications.

### **Name Metadata Service for Finnish memory organisations**

In the past years we have been working on so-called Nimitietopalvelu (unofficial name in English is Name Metadata Service). This service enables the Finnish memory organisations (libraries, archives and museums) to share, manage their data and to describe persons, families and corporate bodies (agents) in one place. Our goal is to create a production platform, which can be fully integrated into the cataloger's interface in the different systems that are used by memory organisations. The plans about the Name Metadata Service was presented at the IFLA satellite meeting in August 2016 ([PDF](#) of presentation, 224 KB).

We have been working together with archives and museums to harmonize the way we describe agents to achieve more compatible data in the future. By implementing the same describing rules (RDA) has already brought us closer, but when we start using the same data model the differences will become even smaller.

This year we published a Data Model for shared Name Metadata Service in RDF format. The work is almost ready and you can **find** it via [Finnish Data Vocabularies Tool](#). In the data model, describing elements are linked with RDA properties and mapped into the different formats that libraries, museums and archives use (for example to MARC 21 and Spectrum).

By following the example of National Libraries in Germany and France, we started to build Wikibase as the platform of the service. We have mapped

properties that libraries, museums and archives use to the Wikibase and we have started testing importing data from library system to the Wikibase. Our next step is to implement metadata from library, archive and museum sectors to the shared depository. After that, we can start to describe agents together there. We are on our way, but it will take some time to get there.

### **KANTO – open data**

In the end of November 2020 we published The National Library of Finland's name authorities in [KANTO - Finnish Agent Data open data](#). In KANTO you can find for example different forms of agents' names and identifiers (ISNI, ORCID, business identity code). As an important part of KANTO is linking authors to their publications.

By publishing our name authorities as open data, the data can be more widely used outside of libraries, for example in public or private business sector to make authors' copyrights management better.

### **NEWS FROM FRANCE**

By **Mélanie Roche**, Head of Applied Models, Bibliothèque nationale de France

### **A year in the life of the national library's future metadata production system**

For the last three years, the national library of France (BnF) has been engaged in a complete overhaul of both its metadata production system and its cataloguing format — both of which are developed and maintained in-house. As one can imagine, this project, named NOEMI, is a huge, multi-faceted endeavour that involves intense work on all fronts: the future interface, which has to be modern, user-friendly and time-saving; the new production format, which needs to accommodate all IFLA LRM entities and allow linked data cataloguing while keeping the main characteristics of a MARC format; the links and plugs to the other 138 applications across the

library's Information System; the training sessions and materials that need to be thought through well in advance. As the first semester of 2021 reaches its end, now is a good time to provide a snapshot of what's in store for NOEMI this year, since it is both comforting and daunting to measure what has been achieved so far — and what still needs to be done.

The first front line for 2021 was to build up a full training course to be tested by a handful of experienced cataloguers and metadata experts. This course mixed a variety of forms tailored to the different targeted outcomes: we produced lecture-style presentations of the conceptual model IFLA LRM, of the new cataloguing rules introduced by the French adaptation of RDA, and of our future production format, Next-Gen INTERMARC. In addition, we organised work-specific workshops to cover all kinds of works in the catalogue. Lastly, we went over 40 use cases, representative of the different kinds of resources within the library, of "real-life" records turned into IFLA LRM records. Following this model, attendees were then invited to write their own use case based on their own stock of favourite records as voluntary homework, and send them to their trainers for review. The course took place over two weeks in May and was attended by 50 people, most of whom provided extensive and insightful feedback that is currently being processed. Although most of the feedback received was very positive on the trainees' side, the toll that this course took on trainers was so important that it is likely that no other session will be organised this year.

The other important step that the project is taking this year is the "100 000 migration": this is the name with which we came up for the migration of 100 000 bibliographic records that will serve as a sandbox for the upcoming usability tests on the future interface at the end of the month. Since this is but a drop in the ocean of the 15 million records in the library's catalogue, these records were selected to answer specific requirements: they have to be linked to at least one person or corporate body authority record; to be representative of all the library's resources; and to account as much as possible for the variety of cataloguing rules and practices that have prevailed over the years. This migration is a huge step to test

the specifications of distribution (which MARC fields will be distributed into which IFLA LRM entities), as well as the conversion tables from INTERMARC, our current production format, into Next-Gen INTERMARC, the format we will be using in NOEMI. This is therefore a critical date before the first full-scale migration of several million records planned for the end of the year.

Lastly, we are redesigning our cataloguing toolbox so as to articulate it closely with NOEMI and make it more compatible with linked data cataloguing. Kitcat is the name of the web portal where cataloguers can find information about cataloguing policies and rules followed by BnF, complete manuals of the library's cataloguing formats, reminders about specific in-house procedures, and a help-desk for the cataloguing application. When NOEMI opens, it will have its own embedded "Help" section, but this doesn't prevent Kitcat from having to adapt and provide clear, up-to-date, and reliable information for cataloguers in an environment turned upside down: on the contrary, its role has never been so essential now that it is an influential piece of change management. This is why 2021 will be dedicated to a series of user workshops aiming to anticipate future user needs and rethink the whole structure of the site accordingly. Two of these workshops have already occurred, and we still have two more planned: as could be expected for a tool that most cataloguers use on a daily basis, users are very much involved and discussions have been lively and enlightening. Once compiled, the results of the workshops will serve as a basis to specify Kitcat's new design, scheduled to enter into development in 2022.

**NEWS FROM GERMANY****News from the German National Library (DNB)**

By **Elke Jost-Zell**, Department of Subject Cataloguing, German National Library

Since March 2021 the German National Library has begun resuming regular library services such as reading room use, for the time being, however, only for a limited number of patrons. As a completely new service virtual guided tours are being organized as well as live tours for small groups up to five guests, observing all necessary precautions.

Author's readings and exhibitions of the library's special collections, the German Exile Archive, the German Music Archive and the German Museum of Books and Writing, are still open to the public online only.

[https://www.dnb.de/EN/Home/home\\_node.html](https://www.dnb.de/EN/Home/home_node.html)



Photo: German National Library, Stephan Jockel, CC-BY-SA 3.0DE

**Integrated Authority File (Gemeinsame Normdatei, GND)****GND Website**

In March 2021 the new GND website [GND.network](https://www.gnd.network) was launched in an English and a German version. The website presents extensive information on all upcoming developments and events related to the Integrated Authority File (Gemeinsame Normdatei, GND).

For more information on GND.network please contact Jürgen Kett, Office for Library Standards, AfS, [j.kett@dnb.de](mailto:j.kett@dnb.de)

**Workspace GNDmul (Multilingual Cross Concordance to GND)**

This new project is a continuation of the MACS (Multilingual Access to Subjects) project. MACS was a joint project by the Swiss National Library, the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the British Library and the German National Library. It involved the linking of equivalent headings from the LCSH (Library of Congress Subject Headings), RAMEAU (Répertoire d'autorité-matière encyclopédique et alphabétique unifié) and the GND (Integrated Authority File). With the GND's opening for other institutions like museums and archives more and extensive mappings are called for. The project deals with the management, maintenance and use of concordances to various thesauri, like THESOZ (Thesaurus Sozialwissenschaften, Thesaurus Social Sciences), STW (Standard Thesaurus Wirtschaft, Standard Thesaurus Economics), AGROVOC (Agrarwirtschaft Vokabular, Agriculture Vocabulary) and MeSH (Medical Subject Headings). The results of MACS will be integrated and used as a reference for all GND concordances.

GNDmul is scheduled from 1st April 2021 – 30th September 2022.

For information on GNDmul please contact Yvonne Jahns, Department of Subject Cataloguing, [Y.Jahns@dnb.de](mailto:Y.Jahns@dnb.de)

## Committee of Library Standards

The Committee for Library Standards is made up of decision-makers from library networks, national libraries, state libraries and representatives of public libraries in Germany, Austria, and the German-speaking Switzerland. It is responsible for the strategic development of cataloguing standards, data formats and authority files and is managed by the German National Library's Office for Library Standards (Arbeitsstelle für Standardisierung, Afs). In order to promote the cooperation with other sectors of cultural heritage with respect to joint use of authority files, standards and a common sphere of data the Committee of Library Standards decided to expand its scope beyond the library community. Representatives of the State Archive of Baden-Württemberg (Landesarchiv Baden-Württemberg, LABW) and the German Documentation Centre for the History of Art (Deutsches Dokumentationszentrum für Kunstgeschichte, DDK) are new permanent members. Also a panel for the sectors of museum and cultural heritage preservation will be created.

## 3R-DACH Project for Libraries (3R-DACH-Projekt für Bibliotheken)

The project aims to elaborate the new RDA rules and the new structure of the RDA Toolkit for the practical usage in libraries in the German speaking countries. The project was adopted at the Committee of Library Standards' meeting in December 2020; it is led by the German National Library and is scheduled until the end of 2022. The goal is to create and publish a handbook for practical cataloguing.

You may also contact Anke Meyer-Hess, Digital Services, [A.Meyer@dnb.de](mailto:A.Meyer@dnb.de)

## Metadata for all

Good news for all metadata fans – many of the German National Library's services which formerly required users to register or pay a fee can now be used by everyone free of charge. The OAI and SRU interfaces have long given users free access to the metadata of the German National Library (DNB), the Integrated Authority File (GND) and the German Union Catalogue of Serials (ZDB). Since 1 April 2021, it is no longer necessary to register before using them. The interfaces now permit unrestricted access to the required metadata at any time. You will find all the relevant information at [www.dnb.de/EN/sru](http://www.dnb.de/EN/sru) and [www.dnb.de/EN/oai](http://www.dnb.de/EN/oai)

All [regularly updated sets](#) of newly collected metadata can be accessed free of charge from 21 April 2021. These data sets, which are updated at weekly, monthly or quarterly intervals, supplement the regularly delivered [full copies](#) that have been freely accessible for some time.

The new service encompasses the following regularly updated data sets:

- The series of the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie (German National Bibliography)
- The New Release Service
- Digitised tables of contents (catalogue enrichment)
- The change service for authority data in the Integrated Authority File (GND)
- Metadata from the German Union Catalogue of Serials (ZDB)

You will find more information at <https://www.dnb.de/metadatabase>

## Single Issue Cataloguing

Since the beginning of 2021 the German National Library catalogues single issues of continuing and integrated resources e.g. journals, and displays the bibliographic information in the library's OPAC. For the creation of the metadata records a semi-

automatic procedure was implemented. Around 70.000 records were created so far.

For further information, please contact Christian Schütz, Collection Development Frankfurt am Main, [c.schuetz@dnb.de](mailto:c.schuetz@dnb.de)

## NEWS FROM THE NETHERLANDS

By **Brigitte den Oudsten**, Information and Collection Specialist, National Library of the Netherlands

and

**Judith Rog**, product manager e-Depot, National Library of the Netherlands

### National Bibliography of the Netherlands Next Steps

After two tender processes and the purchase of two Ex Libris's products, [Alma](#) and [Rosetta](#), KB (National Library of the Netherlands) is now at the eve of a large multi-year implementation and migration project.

Alma will replace the current LBS4, Local Library System from OCLC and the shared cataloguing system called the GGC (Gemeenschappelijk Geautomatiseerd Catalogussysteem), a joint cataloging platform for the national information infrastructure, on the CBS platform (OCLC).

The KB holds around 7 million physical items (115km of shelving space, mostly books, newspapers, and around 10,000 paper journals). Most items are from the *Nederland Collectie*, the KB's core collection on Dutch language and culture. This collection includes the National Deposit Collection (started in 1974) from (over 20,000) Dutch publishers.

Rosetta is a so-called Digital Asset Management and Preservation System (DAMPS). In 2003 the KB was the first library worldwide to have a digital archive for digital publications in place, which was called e-

Depot. Over the last decade, the KB's digital collection grew substantially in volume and diversity, due to large-scale digitisation of its paper collections, a paradigm shift in publishing towards digital only, and the KB's efforts on web archiving. This required a new approach to preservation in which the KB ensures its valuable collection is kept safe for future generations. Rosetta offers the KB new possibilities to trustfully process and preserve its collection items, at large scale.

Implementation of both Alma and Rosetta includes a large data migration. KB has been cataloguing in its current system for more than 45 years. The digital collections that are to be migrated to Rosetta consist of half a billion digital files and metadata records.

In preparation for the implementation of both systems KB is currently taking several steps. Rosetta will be installed in KB's new data center. The required hardware is now being prepared.

The KB has over 500 staff, a substantial number of whom work on collection & item management. Current production processes will be updated and refined. We also have started training our users to get familiar with the new systems, their new functionalities and data formats.

In preparation of the data migration, we are defining how to apply ALMA's and Rosetta's data models to the data in our legacy systems, so that we can align the existing data with the new data models. And finally, we are defining the place of ALMA and Rosetta within the IT architecture including the design of the interface between ALMA and Rosetta and the interfaces with other IT systems.

If any other National Libraries have implemented both Alma and Rosetta, we would be interested in exchanging ideas. Please contact either Judith Rog ([judith.rog@kb.nl](mailto:judith.rog@kb.nl)) or Brigitte den Oudsten ([brigitte.denoudsten@kb.nl](mailto:brigitte.denoudsten@kb.nl)).

**NEWS FROM RUSSIA****National Library of Russia (Saint-Petersburg, Russia)**

By **Stanislav Golubtsov**, Deputy General Director for Library Work, National Library of Russia (Saint-Petersburg)

**New publications in the electronic catalog of the National Library of Russia (St. Petersburg) – subject headings, classification indexes and intent queries.**

The coronavirus pandemic has become one of the most significant challenges in the library professional sphere. A year ago, the users' demand for digitalization of library services and search tools provided by libraries in the Internet environment increased dramatically, allowing them to accumulate and comprehend the experience of using various digital tools that allow not only to attract readers, but also to form their loyalty.

One of these tools was the digital tool [New OPAC \(online public access catalog\) Items](#), published on the website of the National Library of Russia. The practice of highlighting novelties (new literature received by the library) is certainly not new, exhibitions of new arrivals were widely used in libraries in the pre-digital era. Offline exhibitions of new arrivals enjoy a steady interest among readers. National Library of Russia has a permanent exhibition of new arrivals (in compliance with coronavirus restrictions) – a special reading room with open access to new products received by the library. It generates a significant flow of offline user traffic. **But what about the digital environment and online access?**

Online information about new arrivals is also carried out here, and the format of such information largely corresponds with the format of information about new products in online stores, and not only in bookstores. Such "exhibition of new arrivals" from the point of view of data design are a specific product group (formed on the principle of novelty),

hyperlinks from which lead to the cards of the conditional product. In fact, the functionality of such a selection of new products is limited by the software platform that manages the data.

Our task was to create a test array of new products' collections reflected in the electronic catalog, which would allow us to solve a number of issues that arose in the height of online interaction with readers during the period of pandemic restrictions:

1. It is necessary to carry out an expert selection of new products that are most informative and valuable in the informational sense to help our readers to solve new problems: online learning, interaction between parents and children, etc.
2. It is necessary to clearly target the intent of user's requests - the goal that the user puts in the query by entering it in the search bar of the search engine. In this case, it is important to encapsulate landing pages for informational, address, and transactional requests in order to optimize user behavior. Such optimization is especially important due to the careful attention to the behavioral factors of Internet search engines.
3. It is important to use all available information in a machine-readable bibliographic record to implement the concept of potentially related data. The data relationship is not visualized until it is requested by the user
4. It is also necessary to understand what level of completeness of the data recorded in the bibliographic record is necessary and sufficient for their visualization not only in the OPAC array, as part of the sample, but also as part of the online exhibition of new items in the catalog. Here, first of all, we are interested in the click rate, the click map, the depth and the chain of viewing bibliographic content, starting from the page of the of new products collection. In this case, of course, conclusions can only be drawn as statistically significant information accumulates.



The web page with the new project – New publications to the electronic catalog. (NLR web – [www.nlr.ru](http://www.nlr.ru))

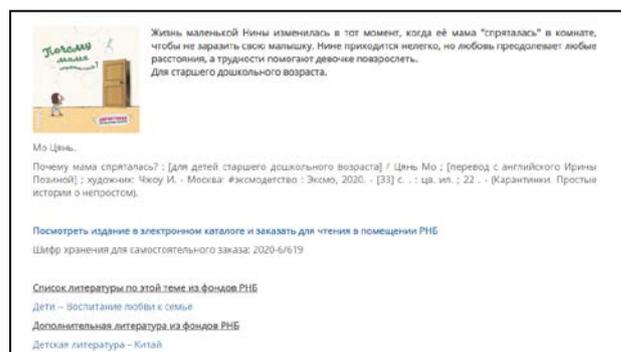
It was decided to place the new project (New publications to the electronic catalog) in the news block of the National Library of Russia website. The news section is traditionally one of the most visited.

Book novelties are placed either in thematic blocks (new literature on economics, law) and on the principle of targeting a specific target audience and readership: for example, children's quarantine books. The selection of thematic blocks and publications included in the blocks is carried out by catalogers of the National Library of Russia, who have both specialized and library competencies.

Each block consists of descriptions of definite publications that were received by the National Library of Russia in accordance with the federal law on mandatory copies of documents. These publications passed the process of cataloging and content processing, and during that process they were selected as recommended by cataloging experts.

Let's look all this process at the real example.

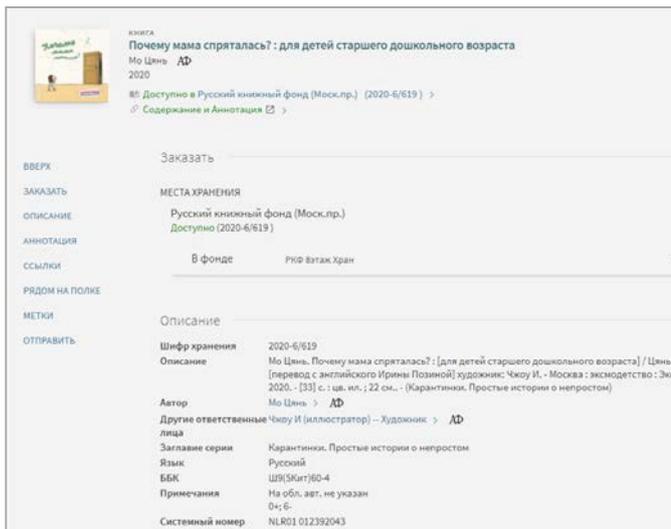
Here is one of the publications of the collection dedicated to a new type of children's literature that appeared during the pandemic – karantinki (quarantine).



Karantinki / quarantine books

The visualized description of the publication contains both the actual bibliographic description, the abstract, and the image of the publication's cover. At the end of the description, navigation elements are provided - hyperlinks that allow the reader to perform certain actions.

The hyperlink "**View the publication in the electronic catalog and order it for reading in the National Library of Russia**" allows you to open the description of the publication directly in the electronic catalog of the National Library of Russia with information about the storage of the publication, the ability to make an electronic order, etc.



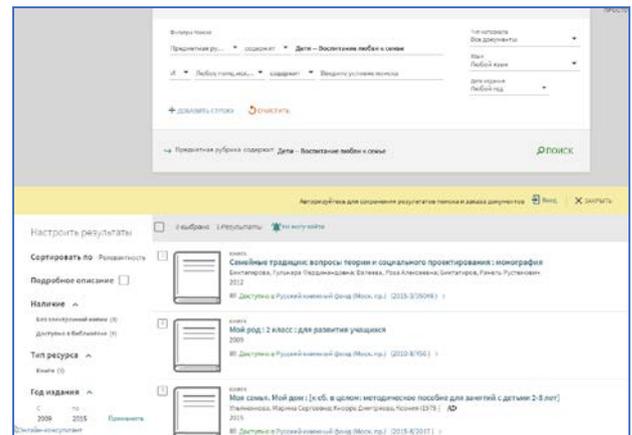
View of an open hyperlink – “View the publication in the electronic catalog and order it for reading in the National Library of Russia”

The hyperlink “List of literature on this topic from the National Library of Russia funds” transmits the NLR subject heading to the search engine of the electronic catalog as a query. Thus, the reader always sees an up-to-date set of publications on this particular topic. In a certain sense, the relationship between these publications is not pre-installed in the database and is determined at each new user request anew and, what is important, automatically.

Example:

List of literature on this topic from the National Library of Russia funds:

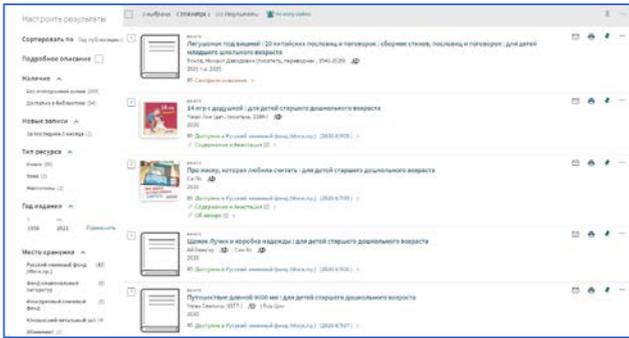
[Children - Nurturing the love of family](#)



The view of the hyperlink “List of literature on this topic from the National Library of Russia funds” with the request [Children - Nurturing the love of family](#)

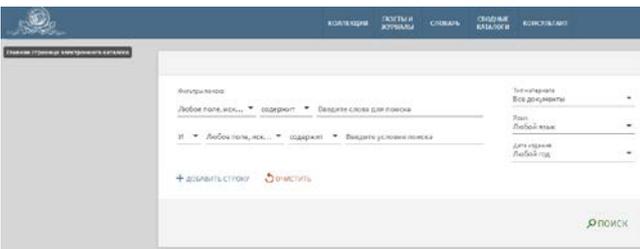
There are not so many publications devoted entirely to the topic of love for the family in children. They are all the more valuable to the reader who is interested in receiving this information.

The hyperlink “Additional literature from the National Library of Russia funds” transmits the request to the search engine of the National Library of Russia electronic catalog in the form of a classification index from the target bibliographic record. The National Library of Russia uses the Library and Bibliographic Classification (BBK). The very principle of building a systematic search is different from the subject search, so the user receives translations of Chinese fairy tales into Russian. Of course, their number is much higher.

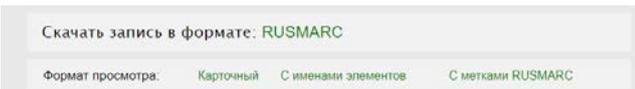


The view of the hyperlink “Additional literature from the National Library of Russia funds” with the request [The literature for children - China](#)

For an individual user, there is always an opportunity to use the professional search capabilities in the electronic catalog (*the picture below*).



The corporate user has the ability to upload a machine-readable record in the RUSMARC format (*the picture below*).



Thus, a user-friendly digital environment is formed, which allows an untrained user to interact with professional search tools of the electronic catalog, which may not be quite familiar to modern users who came to the library's website from search engines.

The National Library of Russia (St. Petersburg) is one of the five largest libraries in the world and ranks second in Russia in terms of funds. It was founded in 1795 and opened to the public in 1814 as the Imperial Public Library. In 1992, the National Library of Russia received its current name and the status of a particularly valuable object of cultural heritage of the Russian Federation people's.

On May 27, we celebrated the 226th anniversary of the National Library of Russia. And on the same day the All-Russian Library Day is celebrated. This holiday is specially timed to the foundation of the first state public library of Russia, now the National Library of Russia.

## NEWS FROM SWEDEN

### AI/machine learning project: Annif + DDC + Libris

By **Harriet Aagaard**, Classification expert, Metadata, National Library of Sweden

Machine generation of the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) has been discussed for several years. Both the National Library of Germany (DNB) and the National Library of Norway have performed interesting projects on machine generation of DDC codes. Are the results good enough to replace manual classification or is it good enough for some media types, eg. on-line documents using shortened DDC codes instead of full codes? DDC is a large and complex classification system with specific rules to follow.



I had the opportunity to be part of a project proposed by Osma Suominen, Information Systems Specialist at the National Library of Finland and Koraljka Golub, Associate Professor in Information Science and Computer Science at Linné University (Sweden). The idea was to use Swedish data (records from the national union catalogue Libris and the Swedish WebDewey) to machine generate DDC. It was a possibility to get inside information about the procedure and to be part of the evaluation of the results.

Osma Suominen has developed the AI tool [Annif](#), an open source tool that is used by several libraries with good results. Koraljka Golub has long experience of research in machine generation.

From the National Library of Sweden Olof Osterman, cataloguer at the National Bibliography department and myself have participated. Our main tasks have been to supply access to the Libris data and to the Swedish WebDewey, select lists from the National Bibliography of the three subject areas we decided to use: religion, health science and natural science. From this a random list of 60 records (3 x 20 records) were chosen. We corrected the DDC codes if they were incorrect. Later we evaluated the machine generated DDC codes.

Annif used bibliographic metadata from Libris records; mostly titles and subject metadata as very few records have abstracts.

Annif generated both a 3-digit DDC code and full DDC codes. As expected, Annif performed better at 3-digit DDC codes: 63% correctness compared to the Gold standard. For full DDC codes it was 45%.

Would this be good enough for giving suggestions for full DDC codes to librarians doing manual classification? Probably not, but it could be interesting to evaluate the suggestions in a project with cataloguers at the the National bibliography department. A further project could be to use better metadata, ie. abstracts, table of contents etc or full text.

An article with a detailed description of the project will be published.

## NEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES

### News from the Library of Congress

By **Susan R. Morris**, Special Assistant to the Director for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., U.S.A

The following is a summary of metadata-related developments at the Library of Congress since our previous report in vol. 6, no. 2 (December 2020).

### **BIBFRAME**

BIBFRAME is an emerging encoding standard first developed in the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) of the Library of Congress to facilitate use of library catalogue data in the linked open data environment. The director for ABA, Beacher Wiggins, announced in June 2019 that BIBFRAME would replace the MARC 21 cataloguing metadata standard after sufficient development, refinement, and testing.



The Library of Congress produced and publicly shared 4,263 BIBFRAME descriptions from October 2020 through March 2021, providing the library community with a growing testbed of linked open metadata to describe library collections. The Library makes its MARC-to-BIBFRAME and BIBFRAME-to-MARC converter tools publicly available. The tools are stable but will be further refined to ensure that the Library of Congress can distribute its native BIBFRAME descriptive metadata in the MARC 21 format. The ILS vendor Ex Libris uses the Library's MARC-to-BIBFRAME converter to support its linked open metadata customers. The Indexdata ILS community has several libraries using the FOLIO linked open metadata system. The Italian book and metadata vendor Casalini libri distributes linked open metadata based on BIBFRAME principles through its SHARE-VDE service. The Library of Congress consults with SHARE-VDE and continues to consult closely with the 17 Program for Cooperative Cataloging libraries in the Linked Data 4 All project led by Stanford University Libraries.

### **COVID PANDEMIC RESPONSE/HEIGHTENED CAPITOL SECURITY**

As reported in IMN vol. 6, no.2, the Library of Congress is currently deeply affected by the novel coronavirus pandemic. We continue to express our solidarity with fellow librarians and library users around the world, and we send our most sincere hopes that all communities will soon emerge from the pandemic, with as little personal and economic loss as possible.

In response to the civil unrest that occurred at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, the Capitol Complex, including the Library of Congress buildings on Capitol Hill, has accepted increased security measures. The Library's buildings were within the heightened security perimeter until mid-March 2021, which required staff to pass through a police checkpoint to enter their workplaces. Several thousand members of the U.S. National Guard were stationed in the Capitol Complex to complement the relatively small U.S. Capitol Police, and the Guard used Library facilities for staging and rest areas. Added security measures included closing the Library buildings to nearly all members of the public and closing the Electronic Resources Center, an all-digital research center that had been established to serve researchers by appointment during the pandemic. The concourse that connects the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building to the U.S. Capitol had been closed at the start of the pandemic and remains closed. The killing of a U.S. Capitol Police officer on duty on April 2, 2021, required the security measures to be extended even longer. The Guard did not withdraw from the Capitol Complex until the final week of May 2021.

The Library is gradually restoring its full functions and services to its users. Phase Two of the reopening began in July 2020 and saw increased numbers of staff working onsite to accomplish essential work that could not be performed at home, such as unpacking and inspecting new collection materials from around the world. Beginning on June 1, 2021, the Library will open four reading rooms, all in the

1980s-era James Madison Memorial Building-- Geography & Map, Law, Manuscript, and Newspapers & Current Periodicals. Current plans call for additional reading rooms to reopen on a staggered basis throughout the summer, with pauses every two weeks to evaluate the safety of the staff and researchers. Although the emphasis in Phase 3.1 is on partial restoration of reading room functions, the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate also will increase the number of its onsite staff, so that about 225 of its 360 staff members will work onsite for part of each week.

The major long-term impact on cataloging operations will most likely be expanded telework. We find that cataloging lends itself to telework, particularly Cataloging in Publication, which was already an entirely online workflow, and cataloging of digital resources. In 2020, teleworkers were allowed either to take physical materials home for cataloging or to come onsite for brief periods to photocopy title pages and relevant snippets of the materials. For the past three years, our receipts of digital serial issues have exceeded print serial receipts, and therefore most serial check-in can also readily be performed on telework. The Library of Congress is currently developing a policy for expanded telework post-pandemic. It is challenging to ensure that equitable telework opportunities are available to professionals and technicians and that the books are not lost or damaged on telework. There is no doubt, however, about the effectiveness of telework as a pandemic response: In fiscal 2020, the Library of Congress completed 253,147 new MARC bibliographic records, equal to 93 percent of our level the previous year despite several weeks when staff were not permitted to enter the Library buildings.

#### **ISNI in CIP RECORDS**

The Library of Congress is a member of ISNI-IA, the International Standard Name Identifier-International Agency. The Library's Cataloging in Publication program is currently collaborating with Harvard Library of Harvard University and the Book Industry

Study Group to explore integrating ISNI into Cataloging in Publication by an automated workflow. The goal is to encourage U.S. publishers to include ISNI in their ONIX data, which most U.S. publishers send to the Library of Congress as a courtesy, and thereby expand the ISNI universe. The project envisions using PrePub BookLink (PPBL), the CIP traffic management and ONIX-to-MARC conversion software. Publishers would need to include the ISNI for the contributor in their requests for CIP data, and potentially an API call out for the ISNI would be needed for those ISNI hosted by a third party. Additional software development would be needed to map the ISNI in ONIX to the appropriate field in the PPBL products tables and then to the CIP request and the MARC Editor used to generate a MARC 21 record from ONIX data. Finally, the project team would need to decide whether the ISNI in the bibliographic record should appear in the CIP data provided to publishers and to allow for that development.

#### **RDA PROGRESS**

The Library of Congress continues its extensive support for the cataloguing instructions *RDA: Resource Description & Access*. The Library of Congress is an institutional member of the North American RDA Committee (NARDAC), which elects one representative to the worldwide RDA Steering Committee (RSC). The Library's two representatives to NARDAC are Melanie Polutta, a cataloguing policy specialist in ABA, and Damian Iseminger, head of the Bibliographic Access Section in the Library's Music Division. Damian is also chair of the RSC Technical Working Group.

The Library of Congress will implement the December 2020 release of the *RDA Toolkit* no sooner than July 2022, in order to allow time for all cataloging staff to be trained for BIBFRAME production before they are trained for the "new" RDA.

From October to March 2020, the Literature Section of ABA completed a very successful pilot to evaluate

the use of the Commonly Identified Title for works of poetry. As a result, the Library of Congress announced a new interim policy (until all documentation can be revised and incorporated into the RDA Toolkit) on May 27, 2021, for partial compilations of works of a single agent created after 1500 C.E.:

For compilations containing works created after 1500:

Instead of recording the preferred title for each of the works in the compilation, record the title proper of the compilation as its preferred title. Optionally, give authorized access points for any or all of the individual works or expressions in the compilation in 7XX added entry fields. (See LC-PCC PS 25.1 and LC-PCC PS 26.1).

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging implemented a similar policy in April 2021.

### **SUBJECT HEADINGS**

The Library of Congress considers suggestions from lawmakers, library users, Program for Cooperative Cataloging and other librarians, and other constituents, with a view to keeping the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) responsive and current with standards of sensitivity, diversity, equity, and inclusion. Terms are established on the basis of literary warrant, but we have begun citing blog posts and other digital content as literary warrant, which helps with the most current terminology. In spring 2021, the Library of Congress changed its longtime subject heading “Tulsa Race Riot, Tulsa, Okla., 1921” to the more accurate and respectful **Tulsa Race Massacre, Tulsa, Okla., 1921**. The changed subject heading is supported by usage in a dozen publications including blog posts, museum websites, and remarks by Sen. James Lankford (R-OK) who used the term “Tulsa Race Massacre” in eulogizing Dr. Olivia Hooker in the *Congressional Record* in May 2019.

The Library is increasing its efforts to reflect standards of diversity, equity, and inclusion in its controlled name authorities and subject headings. The commonest way to disambiguate nonunique names is to add a date of birth or death, but the Library has long accommodated the wishes of authors who do not want such dates in their authorized name headings. The Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate has improved its fiscal 2022 annual strategic and tactical plan by adding a new performance goal, “1.2.3 Review Library of Congress Subject Headings to reflect contemporary standards for diversity, equity, and inclusion in order to increase discoverability of Library collections by all Library users.” All our supervisors will report their accomplishments tied to this performance goal, in the annual individual performance evaluation process. This measure of accountability is intended to motivate action.

The Library is also focusing on how Native American Tribal Groups are cited. This work will proceed in the coming year.

### **SUPERVISORS IN ABA**

The ABA Directorate has gained a new division chief and a new first-line supervisor since last December. Caroline Saccucci, a current member of the IFLA Standing Committee for Subject Analysis and Access, was appointed chief of the US Programs, Law & Literature Division on February 14, 2021 (*see separate article in this issue*).

The Science, Medicine, and Agriculture Section in the US Arts, Sciences, and Humanities Division gained a new section head, Jasmyne Lewis-Combs, on April 12, 2021. In her most recent position, Jasmyne was an Assistant Librarian and Adjunct Professor at Kentucky Christian University where her job included technical services and collection management duties. In previous work experiences, she also served as a digital access librarian, a director in various institutions overseeing library collections and services, and a teacher. She has a strong background in planning and implementing projects, staff training, and problem solving. She possesses a Master of

Science degree in Library Sciences from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Education degree in Special Education from Georgetown College, Washington, D.C., and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and Sociology from Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky. She currently is pursuing a degree as a Doctor of Education in Leadership Studies from Marshall University in West Virginia.

### **Caroline Saccucci Is Latest Library of Congress Metadata Chief**

By **Susan R. Morris**, Special Assistant to the Director for Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access, Library of Congress



Caroline Saccucci became permanent chief of the US Programs, Law & Literature Division in the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate on Feb. 14, 2021. Caroline had served as acting chief of USPRLL since July 2020. Caroline is the co-editor for the website of IFLA's Standing Committee for Subject Analysis and Access. She spoke on " 'Automagic' CIP Data at the Library of Congress with PrePub Book Link" at the joint Satellite Meeting "Metadata Specialists in the Machine Age" in Thessaloniki, Greece, just before the World Library and Information Congress in Athens in August 2019. In addition to her service to IFLA, Caroline is very active in the American Library Association and its affiliate, the Potomac Technical Processing Librarians. She

chairs the CIP Advisory Group of librarians and publishers that meets in conjunction with ALA Annual Conferences.

As chief of USPRLL, Caroline is responsible for a vast array of metadata activities serving the international and U.S. library communities. The 63 members of USPRLL (57 federal employees and some volunteers and contract staff) are grouped into four sections: the CIP/DEWEY Section, ISSN Program/U.S. ISSN Centre, Law Section, and Literature Section. From July 2012 until her appointment as division chief, Caroline was head of the CIP/DEWEY Section. She managed the U.S. Cataloging in Publication Program, which as the oldest continuing CIP program in the world produces cataloging in advance of publication for about 50,000 titles from more than 2,700 American or international publishers. She was the product owner for PrePub Book Link, the new software that manages and routes CIP requests and returns formatted CIP cataloging to publishers; she had to coordinate with the software developer and the Library's contracts unit as well as with the dozens of CIP Cataloging Partner institutions, several hundred Library staff, and thousands of publishers who use PPBL. Working on the implementation of PPBL led her to become the ABA Directorate's resident expert in ONIX, the EDItEUR-developed XML standard for metadata that is widely used by American publishers. As the CIP/DEWEY Section head, Caroline also represented the Library of Congress on the international Dewey Editorial Policy Committee and expanded the automated assignment of Decimal Classification, enabling the Library to assign Dewey numbers to 123,183 titles in fiscal year 2020.

The USPRLL Division also manages the U.S. ISSN Center, which assigns International Standard Serial Numbers to serials in all digital and analog formats published in the U.S. As USPRLL chief, Caroline represents the Library of Congress and the U.S. ISSN Center on the ISSN Governing Board. She also manages the Law Section, which provides subject analysis and classification for collections of the Law Library of Congress, and the Literature Section,

which catalogs fiction, drama, and poetry in English and other languages and maintains the Children's Subject Headings through CYAC, its Children's and Young Adults Cataloging Program. The CYAC subject headings are geared to the vocabulary, thought processes, and search strategies that children are most likely to use, but other libraries report that CYAC headings are often essential access points for library users for whom English is a second language.

Caroline holds a master's degree in library science from Simmons University in Boston, Massachusetts, and a bachelor's degree in history from Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia. She has published widely in professional journals, including this newsletter, *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*, *Library Resources & Technical Services*, and *Against the Grain*.

## MEETING REPORTS

### NEW HORIZONS: EMERGING METADATA STANDARDS AND PRACTICES IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

By **Christine Oliver**, Head, Resource Description and Metadata Services, University of Ottawa, Canada



The three metadata Standing Committees have traditionally held a joint session during WLICs called

“Metadata Reports,” and it has been a well-liked session with consistently strong attendance. But then there was the pandemic and in 2020 we had no Metadata Reports.

The three Standing Committees decided to remedy the situation and formed a planning group with the Chairs and representatives from the three sections. An online event presented a great opportunity to reach people beyond WLIC attendees. The Planning Group, under the leadership of Pat Riva, began meeting in early 2021. Members were Pat Riva and John De Santis (Bibliography), Rania Osman, Katarina Synnermark, and Vincent Boulet (Cataloguing), and Chris Oliver and Athena Salaba (Subject Analysis and Access). The group decided to combine the metadata reports with a panel discussion on timely questions and emerging issues in our domain.

The webinar was held on May 27th, opening with a series of seven lightning talks by reporters from each of the three Standing Committees: Bibliography (Rebecca Lubas), Cataloguing (Vincent Boulet), Subject Analysis and Access (Athena Salaba); and from the four standards groups that report to the Committee on Standards: Bibliographic Conceptual Models Review Group (Mélanie Roche & Pat Riva), ISBD Review Group (Gordon Dunsire), LIDATEC (Joseph Hafner) and the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (Héloïse Lecomte).

The lightning talks were intentionally short, three to four minutes each. Each committee and group is involved in complex and essential work, and a full report would have required a webinar for each one. The decision was made to use the webinar as a way to signal this important work and provide pathways to more detailed information about the work. The slide deck has been published and the reporters' slides contain links to documents and sites about the most recent developments. See [the post-event webpage](#)

Rebecca Lubas outlined the project by the Bibliography Standing Committee to update an

important best practices document, *Common Practices for National Bibliographies in the Electronic Age*, highlighting important areas of change. Vincent Boulet began by saying how greatly the work of the Cataloguing Standing Committee has been shaped by the publication of IFLA LRM. He then outlined the four main areas of work in the SC's action plan. Athena Salaba explained how the current work of the Subject Analysis and Access Standing Committee is carried out through three working groups: Genre/Form, Training and Education in Subject Access and Automated Subject Analysis & Access. Mélanie Roche outlined the current work of the Bibliographic Conceptual Models Review Group, focusing on outreach and integration. Pat Riva joined her with the latest news about the development of LRM<sub>00</sub> including the possibility that a draft may soon be available for world-wide review. Gordon Dunsire outlined how ISBD is in transition at many levels, from the updates that are being completed within the current ISBD framework, to the more extensive work in aligning ISBD with IFLA LRM. There is also pressure on ISBD to meet the needs of national bibliographic agencies as new technologies emerge and in relation to other global standards. Joseph Hafner spoke about the successful and long-awaited launch of the IFLA namespaces, thus making IFLA standards available in a linked data form. Héloïse Lecomte focused on the adaptation of UNIMARC to align with IFLA LRM and to enable the use of UNIMARC for entity cataloguing.

The section on the lightning talks not only presented the latest information about IFLA standards and best practices, but it was also completed within the allotted time. This demonstrates excellent planning by each of the reporters as well as skilled timekeeping by Harriet Aagaard.

The lightning talks were followed by a panel discussion. Three panelists were invited, representing three different IFLA regions, and three different perspectives and engagements in the metadata field:

**John Horodyski**, Managing Director, Insight & Analytics, SaltFlats, and Adjunct Professor at San Jose State University

**Frédérique Joannic-Seta**, Head of the Metadata Department at the Bibliothèque nationale de France and co-chair of the "Bibliographic Transition Program" in France

**Ángela Quiroz U.**, Library of Congress of Chile, Sección Producción de Fuentes Referenciales, Departamento de Producción de Recursos de Información, and a member of the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee

Athena Salaba was the moderator and host for the panel discussion. She asked the panelists to respond to three questions, as well as inviting them to comment on each other's contributions.

1. Last year, the speed and effectiveness by which our professionals reacted to challenging situations, also provided us with an opportunity to seek out different solutions. Can you discuss some ways we have seen that worked well in expediting the implementation of changes and the ways we work? Do these changes open the path to thinking about standards, practices, and tools in a different way and still meet our goals to describe information resources and provide the best access to users? Will some of these changes continue after the pandemic?
2. Many of our standards have been created for manual processes and human application, and on the other hand, some system changes are rapid and some much slower to adapt to a broader, semantic web environment. How will standards development change as we move into highly automated environments? How do we envision human-machine interactions and what kind of standards and skills will be

required? Can you talk about your vision of humans and machines co-working versus the focus on manual work by humans?

3. In 5 years, how do you see bibliographic description and subject access evolving? What skills or competencies will be needed? What knowledge, skills, and training will be required of the metadata professionals in the newly emerging bibliographic environment?

The first question focused on our reactions as a profession to the profound changes we had to make during the pandemic. All three speakers felt that this year of change had brought many positive developments. Despite coming from very different environments, their perspectives had common themes. Frédérique summed up well what we have learned this past year when she focused on three key areas a) training and the need to revise and recompose the way we train; b) experimentation with new processes and c) the attention to having the right technological tools to get the job done. The answers to the first question were more embedded in the actual experience of the past year while the second and third invited reflection on the future. All three speakers were optimistic about the evolution of human and machine interactions to produce quality metadata. John pinpointed exactly where we are when he said that the robots are waiting and ready to go but we need to feed the robots good data so that they can produce good results. The panelists agreed with each other that while we exploit machines for mass processing, there is still a major role for human expertise and judgment and that humans must continue to provide the checks and balances for machine-processing of data. There was also a word of caution from Ángela that not all libraries are moving at the same speed, and some are still relying heavily on manual processes. During the third question, the three panelists looked at how we should prepare the future generation of metadata professionals. Ángela predicted that future generations must be prepared for constant learning. Yes, they should learn more about programming,

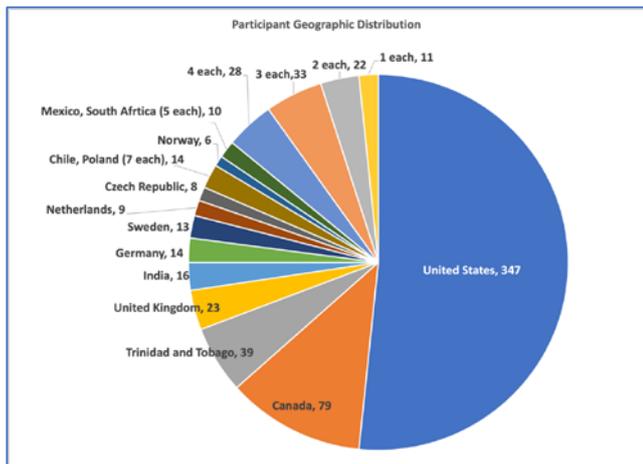
artificial intelligence and other IT skills, but most important is to be ready to learn constantly, watch trends and pay attention to what is about to change. In a similar vein, John talked about the need for our metadata to evolve so that it remains relevant, and using a data-driven, user-centric approach to guide the stewardship of this data. Frédérique concluded with an emphasis on the need for both a proper theoretical background in bibliographic conceptual models as well as metadata manipulation skills. Metadata creators should no longer think in terms of a record that can be declared as “finished” but rather think in terms of the lifecycle of data. All three agreed that while we are quickly moving into a highly automated environment, future competencies must include attention to ensuring the quality and usefulness of our metadata.

After the panelists spoke, there was an energetic question and answer session, managed by John De Santis, with questions for both the panelists and the reporters.

To hear the full responses, one can access a recording of the webinar, made available through the [IFLA Bibliography's YouTube channel](#). Creating the YouTube channel was an adventure in itself but is now available as a tool that can be shared by our IFLA metadata groups, despite the name.

The webinar was very well attended. Registration reached 1148 on the day before the event. Over six hundred people attended the live event, mainly on Zoom with also an overflow group attending through the YouTube livestream. YouTube analytics indicates 144 views (81 concurrent) of the livestream, with 300 replays, most on the day of the webinar. The recording of the webinar continues to have an increasing number of views, having reached 442 views as of June 7. The recording received 17 “Likes” and has generated 50 subscriptions to the new YouTube channel. Emails that were received by the organizers have been very encouraging and positive. One attendee told us that she has posted the links on her national library’s website.

Attendees came from at least 54 countries in 6 of the continents:



Countries with less than 5 attendees per country:

Belgium, Croatia, France, Greece, Lebanon, Philippines, United Arab Emirates (4 each)	28
Brazil, China, Denmark, Macau SAR, Nigeria, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Venezuela (3 each)	33
Albania, Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, Estonia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Romania, Singapore (2 each)	22
Argentina, Australia, Finland, Hungary, Israel, Maldives, Qatar, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tunisia (1 each)	11

Note: these charts are based on Zoom statistics (where the country could be identified from the email address) and does not capture the statistics about YouTube attendees.

The webinar was a different way for us to do the metadata reports. Combining the reports with a panel discussion was a successful format. The level of interest and attendance was far beyond what we have ever seen within the regular in-person conference format. This webinar allowed us to engage with an extensive audience from around the world. In addition to raising awareness of IFLA work and IFLA standards, perhaps it may also prompt more concrete involvement with IFLA, whether in conference attendance or volunteering to serve on IFLA committees and groups. An open webinar between the conferences is definitely an idea worth exploring again.

## THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL IN THE DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM, 8-12 FEBRUARY 2021

By **Pat Riva**, (Information Coordinator, Bibliography Section)

and

**Mauro Guerrini**, Professor, Università degli studi di Firenze (Italy)

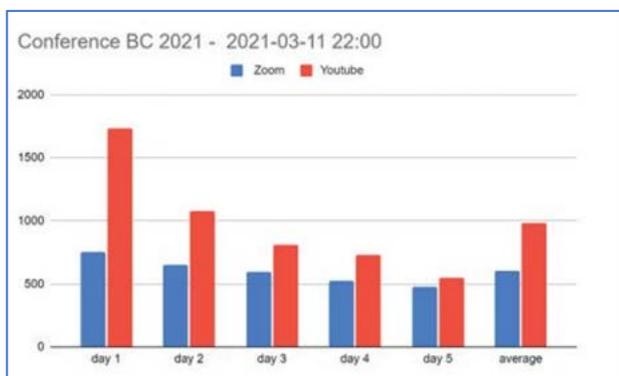
Organised by the Università degli Studi di Firenze, with the Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB) and the European University Institute, the conference chair was Mauro Guerrini, member of the Bibliography Section Standing Committee. The organising team assembled an extensive list of promoters and partners from Italy and beyond, including the IFLA Bibliography Section (see [BC2021.unifi.it](https://bc2021.unifi.it)).

Given the premise that bibliographic control is radically changing because the bibliographic universe is radically changing – in its resources, actors, technologies, standards, and practices – the Conference's aim was to explore the new boundaries of Universal Bibliographic Control. In doing this the organisers assembled speakers representing every aspect of the publication chain, including publisher viewpoints as well as libraries. Standards were well represented, and national bibliographies, authority files, linked data and semantic web. Presentations also covered areas not usually considered when discussing bibliographic control but very important to university libraries, such as institutional repositories, preprint archive servers, and research data management.

There were 35 presentations by 42 authors from 9 countries over the 5 days of the conference. Most of the presentations were in English, with some in Italian. The recordings are linked from the [conference program](#)

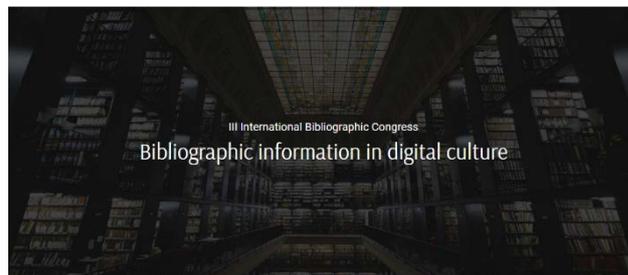
The proceedings will be published in English in [JLIS.it](http://JLIS.it) in January 2022.

The online format allowed a wide audience to attend. To facilitate international participation even more, the sessions were held in half-days, afternoons in Europe, mornings in North/South America. In addition to Zoom, the sessions were also livestreamed on YouTube, where they were recorded. On average there were 600 participants through Zoom and 980 on YouTube for each day of the conference.



In bringing together a wide range of perspectives, the conference provided a fruitful comparison between the most advanced international experiences and the best Italian experiences. The hope is that young librarians will be able to participate more and more in the international debate and contribute to making Italian libraries protagonists of the global scene, using the same methodologies and the same standards used internationally.

## THE III INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONGRESS



By **Natalia Lelikova**, National Library of Russia, St.-Petersburg

The [III International Bibliographic Congress](#) was held on 2021 April 27-30 online. The main organizer of the Congress was the State Public Scientific and Technical Library of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, which provided remote hosting of all Congress events and simultaneous translation of reports from Russian into English and from English into Russian in most of the Congress events.

The co-organizers of the Congress were the National Library of Russia, which had previously held the I International Bibliographic Congress in 2010, and the Russian State Library, which had held the II International Bibliographic Congress in 2015.

The program of the III International Bibliographic Congress included: plenary session, sessions of nine sections, four panel discussions, and the final session, at which the results of the Congress were summed up.

All materials of the Congress are available on YouTube.

The pre-congress meeting was held on 2021 April 26. The foresight session "Bibliographer's Competences: Continuity of Development and Breakpoints" was organized and conducted by the staff of the State Public Library for Science and Technology. This meeting aroused great interest in the participants.

The plenary session was attended by authoritative experts in the field of creating bibliographic

information and information support from different countries of the world: Russia, Germany, Italy, China, USA.

Christine Mackenzie, IFLA President, and Mikhail Afanasev, Russian Library Association President, greeted the participants of the III International Bibliographic Congress.

The plenary session included the presentations of the General Director of the National Library of Russia Vladimir Gronsky "The role of the National Library of Russia in the formation of the bibliographic culture of Russia" and of the director of the State Public Library for Science and Technology of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences Andrei Guskov "What are the tasks of modern bibliographer - bibliographer of the XXI century, what challenges he has to face and what competences he must have."

The following issues were discussed at the plenary session: **a)** the problems of universal bibliographic control (UBC), which again became the focus of attention of the world bibliographic community after the publication on the website of the Bibliography Section the [IFLA Professional Statement on Universal Bibliographic Control](#); **b)** how to provide research results using the open research knowledge graph; **c)** modern ways of representing metadata using the Dublin Core — a dictionary (semantic network) of basic concepts designed to unify metadata when describing the widest range of resources.

Mauro Guerrini, professor of the University of Florence (Italy), and Boris Loginov, Director of National Information and Library Centre (Russia), talked about the UBC, which has led to new perspectives in the digital era. UBC now contemplates interoperability and flexibility in dialogue with the various communities of those who deal with institutions of registered memory.

Auer Soeren (Leibnitz Information Centre for Science and Technology, Germany) made a presentation "Organizing Scientific Contributions with the Open Research Knowledge Graph."

Oh Sam, Executive Director of DCMI (Sunkunkwan University, China) presented the DCMI's role in the bibliographic world.

Mathilde Koskas, chair of the IFLA Bibliography Section, spoke about IFLA's activity in creating regulatory documents to promote national bibliography and national bibliographic metadata. The problems she spoke about included how to build or maintain strong National Bibliographies that can contribute to access, selection, and assessment of information.

Caroline Saccucci (Library of Congress, USA) shared her experience of creating the CIP (Cataloging in Publication) system at the Library of Congress, what makes it possible to establish a permanent relationship between libraries and the publishing world.

An important section was "Strategies and ways of developing bibliographic activity in the digital age," where both Russian and foreign specialists tried to answer the main question: how is modern bibliographic activity developing in the world's libraries and in what directions it will have to move in the digital age.

At the Section "Modern trends in national bibliography: Bibliographic activities of National Libraries of the World" specialists from nine national libraries: China, Bulgaria, Belarus, France, Great Britain, Russia (the National Library of Russia and the National Library of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)), as well as Armenia and Kazakhstan presented their materials.

The presentations suggest that each of the world's national libraries has its own experience, problems, and achievements in the field of national bibliography. Meetings such as the one held are not only an exchange of experience, but also a way to consolidate the national bibliography of the world's national libraries.

The panel discussion "National bibliographic resources", led by Mathilde Koskas, was a logical continuation, as it discussed issues: what are the functions of national bibliographic resources in the

modern world and how to make them relevant, active, and strong.

In other sections, equally pressing problems were discussed.

The section "Normative support of bibliographic electronic resources of network access" discussed the problems of developing standards for describing electronic network resources, requirements for the normalization of bibliographic references to electronic network documents, as well as principles of metadata management in the international digital environment.

One main conclusion was that the digitalization process has updated the work on correcting and finalizing the bibliographic description and distribution of electronic resources. The participants of the section came to the conclusion that there is a need for a collegial discussion of this issue in the scientific community.

The section "Corporate cataloging as a form of bibliographic interaction between the libraries" was moderated by Renate Behrens from the National Library of Germany. The reports of the section were devoted to the history and current state of corporate cataloging in Russia, Italy, and China; the possibilities of using authoritative files; and the importance of standardizing bibliographic processes in the development of corporate cataloging. The reports showed different approaches to the discussed problems in different countries.

At the section "Bibliography of local history in the digital age" all aspects of the development of local history bibliography in the digital environment were sounded: its key role in web archiving, the educational potential of webliography, the use of new digital technologies for the preparation of bibliographic resources, and the creation of modern resources that reveal the contribution of local sciences all over the world. Each report was actively and interestingly discussed.

The very different experience of libraries was presented in the section "Creation of bibliographic

resources," the participants of which talked about activities in the field of subject bibliography, the history of the creation of bibliographic products, and the use of new bibliographic objects (for example, web resources). An interesting experience in creating bibliographic resources on biography was presented by employees of the Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the State Public Historical Library.

Related to the previous section "Modern trends in bibliographic services", in turn, clearly showed that modern bibliographic services are increasingly moving into the electronic environment. What are the modern products and services of bibliographic information for users, how to carry out bibliographic search using modern methods, how bibliographic information on social networks can help in bibliographic service — these and other problems of bibliographic services were discussed by the meeting participants.

The section "Theoretical and methodological problems of bibliography: Teaching Bibliography" gathered specialists who solve the theoretical problems of our industry. Both recognized masters of Russian bibliographic science and novice researchers who are just embarking on the difficult path of scientific generalizations of bibliographic practice made presentations there.

The section "Bibliometric Research and Databases" showed that bibliography can go beyond traditional ideas that it is an activity intended only to create bibliographic information and service users and be used to model the main directions of scientific research, to present the data on which the ratings of scientists are built and their contribution to a specific scientific field is determined.

Panel discussions "Using DOI in bibliographic references - current opportunities and prospects," "MARC: replace or remake" logically supplemented the discussion of problems at the sessions. How best to use identifiers of digital resources in bibliographic references, whether it is necessary to abandon the long and widely used MARC formats and replace them with other ways of presenting bibliographic

and cataloging data in a digital environment – were the problems at panel discussions.

The discussion on the tasks and stages of the formation of the National Book Platform of Russia was also substantive and extremely important. The most authoritative experts in this field spoke at it: Director General of the Russian State Library Vadim Duda, Director General of the Russian Book Chamber Elena Nogina, Deputy Director General of the National Library of Russia Stanislav Golubtsov, Director of the Irkutsk Regional Universal Scientific Library Larisa Suleimanova, and other representatives of publishing and library communities.

In general, the Congress gathered more than 1000 listeners from 32 countries and, thanks to the on-line mode, allowed representatives of the world bibliographic community to meet and discuss the most important issues of bibliographic activity. The importance of the III International Bibliographic Congress is difficult to overestimate, and for a long time we will refer to its materials and ponder the issues discussed. Therefore, it would be important to make all the materials of the Congress widely available.

## REPORT ON THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION’S CORE METADATA AND COLLECTIONS SECTION, SUBJECT ANALYSIS COMMITTEE, 2021 MIDWINTER MEETING, VIRTUAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 26, 2021

By **Judy Jeng**, Ph. D., IFLA SAA Representative to ALA/Core SAC

The ALA/Core Subject Analysis Committee held an online meeting on February 26, 2021.

Janis Young (Library of Congress) reported that the long-awaited BIBFRAME-to-MARC conversion was published by MDMSO in April 2020. The BIBFRAME Editor and converter tools were shared with the community via a GitHub repository.

## EDUG VIRTUAL MEETING, MAY 5-6, 2021

By **Elise Conradi**, EDUG Chair; Head of Bibliographic Services, Biblioteksentralen AL, Norway



*Some of the participants at the EDUG virtual meeting*

The 15th annual European Dewey Users Group (EDUG) meeting was held digitally for the second year in a row, on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of May. Over 60 participants attended the Symposium on Day 1, and 35 attended the Business Meeting on Day 2. This year’s Symposium consisted of four presentations, which is slightly fewer than the number of presentations when we meet physically. EDUG Chair Elise Conradi (Biblioteksentralen, Norway) opened the Symposium with a short presentation on the history of EDUG. She was followed by Harriet Aagaard (National Library of Sweden), who presented ongoing experimentations with automatic classification of the Swedish DDC in the machine learning subject indexing platform Annif. Uma Balakrishnan (Verbundzentrale des GBV) then presented the work being done on BARTOC, a thesauri register that was moved to Verbundzentrale des GBV in 2020. She also presented how the coliconc project intersects with BARTOC.

The final two presentations concerned DDC infrastructure and development plans. First, Alex Kyrios (OCLC DDC editor) and Peter Werling (PANSOFT) gave an overview of the technical infrastructure of the Editorial Support System (ESS),

the software used by OCLC to update and maintain the DDC. ESS is the source for all Dewey data, including the data used for Dewey translations. The presentation included a look at the editorial workflow within the system and a summary of recent software developments to the system. The final presentation was held by members of the Dewey Linked Data Working Group, a group assembled by OCLC to provide recommendations for how Dewey could once again be published as Linked Data. Alex Kyrios briefly presented the background for the current project before Peter Werling and Jeff Young (OCLC) showed the PANSOFT-developed prototype that the group has been working on.

Presentations from EDUG 2021 are available on the [EDUG website](#):

The main issues discussed at the 2021 Business Meeting were the ongoing need for Dewey as Linked Data in Europe, means for better communication amongst members and with the OCLC DDC editor, and the status of the Translation Guidelines developed by Tina Mengel (German National Library). Elise Conradi also gave an update on the work done in EDUG since the last Business Meeting in November, particularly concerning EDUG's reaction to news last fall that the OCLC DDC editorial team was being reduced to one member. [More information about this issue can be found here](#), on the EDUG website:

The time and location of EDUG 2022 will be announced this fall.

## STANDARDS NEWS

### CATALOGING CODE OF ETHICS

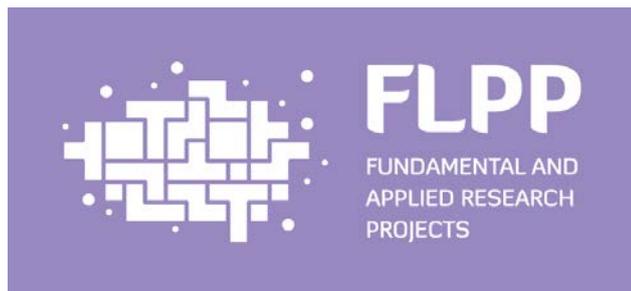
By **Karen Snow**, Ph.D., Associate Professor & Ph.D. Program Director, School of Information Studies, Dominican University, Illinois, USA

The Cataloging Ethics Steering Committee (CESC) is pleased to announce the Final Version of the Cataloging Code of Ethics is now available on their website, which is accessible using this link: <https://sites.google.com/view/cataloging-ethics>.

Work on the Cataloging Code of Ethics began in January 2018 and was significantly informed by the findings of six functional Working Groups in 2019 and two rounds of public consultation and presentations by CESC members at events in the USA, Canada and the UK during 2020. This Final Version will be presented to the professional associations (ALA, CILIP, CFLA-FBCA) that originally supported the formation and work of the CESC for endorsement. The CESC has issued a call for case studies to illustrate the practical application of the "Statements of Ethical Principles." Please refer to [the CESC website](#) to learn more about how to submit case studies

**REPORT ON THE NORDIC NETWORKING GROUP ON  
BIBLIOGRAPHIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE TOPICS  
(NNG), ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 15, 2021**

By the project 'Latvian Memory Institution Data in the Digital Space: Connecting Cultural Heritage' team



The virtual meeting was organized and hosted by the National Library of Latvia (NLL), a member of NNG since 2019.

NNG has started as Scandinavian Virtual Union Catalogue (SVUC) – it was a cooperation between institutions responsible for the union catalogue and national bibliography in Nordic countries. In some point it switched to be more forum for cooperation and changing experiences in bibliographic and technical area: there were similar problems and issues to solve for all members. NNG was started in 2016 in Reykjavik when bibliographic and data development specialists from the Nordic countries met for the first time. Similarly to previous years, in 2021 all NNG member countries – Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Norway, and Sweden – gave reports on the following topics: implementation of new data models, particularly RDA, solutions for data infrastructure issues, the development of artificial intelligence and other tools, etc. Guest participants from Estonia and Lithuania also shared their country reports. Since the meeting, the National Library of Estonia plans to become an NNG member.

The second part of the meeting consisted of five rounds of discussions. The first discussion topic,

initiated by the NLL, was *Bibliographic and other library data on Wikidata*. As a basis and reason for this proposal for the discussion (as well as the fifth topic for discussion) was the ongoing project 'Latvian Memory Institution Data in the Digital Space: Connecting Cultural Heritage' (No. lzp-2019/1-0365) where one of the tasks is to prepare and publish Latvian national bibliography data sets as linked open data. The aim was to discuss the potential pros and cons for putting the data (bibliographic, authority, etc.) into Wikidata whilst generally considering the best ways for libraries and other institutions to globally connect their data in a meaningful way to carry out the ambitious vision by the 'father' of information science, Paul Otlet of a Universal Knowledge base (incl. Universal Bibliographic Control). In this vision, all institutions would collaborate to build one universal knowledge base for everyone to use freely also fulfilling the main role of libraries: to serve as a bridge between knowledge creators and knowledge users.

Two possible ways were suggested:

1. to build or use some kind of a knowledge graph querying framework (like Comunica etc.) where all memory institutions would participate;
2. to collaborate in building a single knowledge base that everyone can freely use as a connecting node for relevant data that memory institutions hold; this is where Wikidata could be one of the possible solutions.

The National Library of Finland (NLF) has been mapping general Finnish ontology concepts (places, topical, general concepts) to Wikidata and considers it suitable to map also work authority to Wikidata.

The discussions continued with the consultation about experience of Share VDE project. The colleagues from the National Library of Norway

(NLN) and the NLF told about Share-VDE working groups where libraries are participating and defining requirements. Both libraries are mostly interested in data enrichment and expect to receive high quality work entities from Share VDE. Different expectations were described. Participants from academic libraries (US) are more united, all working in the BIBFRAME sphere, whereas in Europe, introducing the RDA model required some extension and took a lot of discussions. The need for an extra entity was evident already before NLN and NLF joined Share-VDE (Superwork at the time) model. As there are just a few big players in the BIBFRAME world, it is an opportunity to see where it is going and to influence it by expressing European concerns and requirements.

The third discussion was on *implementing the new RDA Toolkit*. Translations, national guidelines, policy statements, training of cataloguers, and challenges related to reliance solely on MARC were discussed as well as the need for stronger collaboration in the NNG area to deliver the message to the European RDA Interest Group (EURIG) to create base guidelines and application profiles.

The next discussion topic on *Interlibrary-Loan (ILL)* was initiated by the Norway UNIT covering the functionality and legal restrictions associated with copyright licensing service providers' objections to the delivery of digital copies of articles to the end user. The specific issues that were discussed included: the methods for the delivery of digital articles obtained by ILL to end-users (print vs electronic), legal restriction from licensing vendors against electronic delivery to end-user, and the dynamics of the demand and supply of articles in context of the COVID-19 crisis. Throughout the discussion it was concluded that there are different approaches: articles are digitized and disseminated either by e-mailing them or through granting access to services of different ILL platforms. The main problem, however, is the functionality of electronic ILL service systems and their integration with external systems especially in regard to the delivery of digital copies of articles. RapidILL from Ex Libris

(the vendor for the Norwegian library system) could provide a potential solution for this problem. Libraries can deliver copies of articles to end users as PDF files using e-mail but copyright holders must be reimbursed in such case of reproduction. Copyright is an obstacle in context of providing users with access to publications and articles, but there are no other options for libraries – we need to negotiate with right holders. That, however, is resource-consuming.

The fifth discussion topic was *Criteria for compiling publishing statistics*. During the discussion it was concluded that currently the majority of the participating institutions collect the statistics based on the criteria provided by the ISO 9707:2008 standard. The dimensionality in terms of the presentation of statistical data, however, varies by country: some libraries publish the data for several dimensions while others present only the most essential dimensions, e.g., the number of publications per annum, the number of titles per subject class, the number of titles per language of publication etc. The discussion also highlighted shared challenges, namely, the reluctance of publishers to provide information about turnover, sales figures, sizes of print runs and circulations defining the data as trade secrets. Differences in opinions about which publications should be included in statistics were also highlighted. Some only include commercially distributed publications in statistics due to the pressure from publishers for whom publishing is the primary economic activity while others include any publication recorded in the national bibliography. It was concluded that more international in-depth discussions would be needed to discuss the criteria for data collection in detail and also cover the topic on different user needs to move towards internationally comparable data that are usable for different groups of publishers, researchers, and policy makers alike.

The meeting concluded with a discussion on effects of COVID-19 on everyday work, adaptation measures in NNG member countries, and a vision of library life after the pandemic. Library staff mostly work

remotely and direct access services are limited. Despite the challenges, the current situation has also had a positive impact intensifying the training of the librarians to be able to provide services online. And new services have been introduced: online consultations on the Zoom platform, a digital guide for informing users about the library and its services, on-demand digitization, etc. Users were provided with remote services, events, and educational events, also extensive work was carried out on inventory and the re-cataloguing of collections, digitization, the promotion of collections and streamlining library processes.

The need to provide remote services nonetheless also put pressure on library employees promptly requiring knowledge and skills in the e-resource use, the ability to be flexible in extraordinary situations, as well as good technology management skills. Employees also experienced general pandemic-related stress and uncertainty around work issues, had to follow special precautions in servicing readers, and adapt to many changes in the work environment and organization. Besides, remote services sometimes proved to be not suitable for people with visual impairments and other users requiring direct contact.

The NNG meeting was attended by 34 participants from 8 countries.

## DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION (DDC)

By **Alex Kyrios**, DDC editor, OCLC

As of May 2021, the Dewey editorial team continues to work remotely. The annual in-person meeting of the Editorial Policy Committee (EPC), with members from six countries, was not able to be held in 2020. We hope to have that meeting in June 2022.

Updates to the DDC continue despite remote work. Since last year's report, two additional electronic meetings of EPC have been held. Topics developed as part of those meetings include religious conversion, sign language, therapeutic systems, and geocaching, as well as updated geographic units for Bulgaria, Denmark, Kenya, and recent history of Colombia.

Since February 2019 new proposals for revisions to Dewey have been available for review before being voted on by EPC. Proposals that far back can be found at <https://oc.lc/deweyexhibits>, as well as current exhibits, as applicable. Comments on the proposals can be emailed to members of the committee or to the editorial team at [dewey@oclc.org](mailto:dewey@oclc.org).

The editorial team has continued its efforts to increase community engagement, ensuring that librarians from around the world can give meaningful feedback on what's working in Dewey and what needs improvement. Please get in touch by emailing [dewey@oclc.org](mailto:dewey@oclc.org), or explore our informational page about these efforts at <https://oc.lc/deweycontributors>, if you are interested in participating.

Finally, OCLC has continued exploratory efforts around making the DDC available as linked data. A mixed group of OCLC staff and community partners, including representatives from Germany, Norway, and South Africa, has been developing a prototype, which was recently shared at the virtual meeting of the European DDC Users Group (EDUG). We hope to announce more progress on this front in the coming months.

## NEWS FROM THE RDA STEERING COMMITTEE

By **Linda Barnhart**, Secretary of the RDA Steering Committee

### Beta Toolkit Becomes Official RDA

As of 15 December 2020, the beta Toolkit became the official version of the RDA standard. It moved to [access.rdatoolkit.org](https://access.rdatoolkit.org) and is no longer in “beta” status. The original Toolkit moved to a new URL, [original.rdatoolkit.org](https://original.rdatoolkit.org). This date also marked the formal end of the 3R Project. More information is available in the [December 2020 issue of the IFLA Metadata Newsletter](#).

A new release of the official Toolkit was published on 06 April. The release included:

- Increased content in the Finnish and Norwegian translations of RDA
- The addition of the Community Refinements section to the Community Resources area
- The addition of more policy statements from the Library of Congress/Program for Cooperative Cataloging and the British Library
- The addition of a small number of Best Practices for the Music Library Association
- Fixes and minor improvements to existing Toolkit functionality, including the introduction of blue highlight in the yellow Condition boxes to improve visibility.

For more information on the April release, see the [Toolkit blog post](#) or the [Release Notes](#).

The next Toolkit release is scheduled for 15 July, and the last release of the year will happen in October.

The RSC met asynchronously in January and April. [Minutes to these meetings](#) are (or will soon be) available on the RSC website, and include links to relevant briefing papers.

At the January meeting, the [RSC Action Plan 2021-2023](#) was approved. Key tasks for 2021 were agreed upon and prospective tasks for 2022 and 2023 were added.

At the April meeting, the RSC reviewed and approved the terms of reference for the two standing working groups, the [Translations Working Group](#) and the [Technical Working Group](#).

At both meetings, the new [Community resources](#) area of RDA Toolkit was a topic of vigorous discussion. The Community resources area is under active development by the RSC. More information on Community resources is available in another article in this newsletter.

The agenda for the next RSC asynchronous meeting will be published on the website in mid-June for a meeting scheduled for 12-15 July. Due to the continued impact of the pandemic, the October RSC meeting will be virtual instead of in-person.

Damian Iseminger began his appointment as Technical Team Liaison Officer in January. The RSC extended the appointment of Daniel Paradis as Translation Team Liaison Officer for one year, which now concludes in December 2022. Honor Moody was reappointed to a second term as RDA Examples Editor; her term now concludes in December 2023. The RDA Board approved the creation of a Past Chair position on the RSC.

The RSC will open a recruitment soon for a Wider Community Engagement Officer. Details will be available in the [News and Announcements](#) section of the [RSC website](#).

The RSC approved and published its [2020 Annual Report](#).

Selected [presentations given by RSC members in 2021](#) may be found on the RSC website.

### Community Resources Area in RDA Toolkit

The new [Community resources](#) area in RDA Toolkit contains content that conforms to the RDA standard

but is specific to communities rather than international in scope.

The RDA standard has an international focus and is designed to work in many languages and with a wide variety of content and carrier types. Refinements to RDA or vocabularies that are specific to a language or specialist community and which conform to RDA principles may be included in RDA Toolkit within the Community Resources area.

There are several reasons why such content might not be appropriate in official (base) RDA. Foremost among them, the content may only be applicable in local bibliographic or cultural settings, as with the construction of strings or the application of very granular vocabularies.

Because Community resources are not considered part of base RDA, this area is not under the control of the RDA Steering Committee (RSC). The RSC has agreed that content should be owned, curated, and managed by communities, but with some guidance and technical support from the RSC.

And because Community resources are not part of base RDA, translation of this text is not required and is at the discretion of the translation agency and language community.

The initial content of the Community resources area in the English language version of the Toolkit includes deconstructed instructions for abbreviations, capitalization, additions to names of persons, and terms of rank found in the original RDA appendices. These have been reconstructed into pages for terms based on specific languages. In addition, as of the April 2021 release, the legacy Anglo-American instructions from the original Toolkit for the construction of various strings, such as authorized access point for legal works, musical works, official communications, and religious works were relocated to this area.

The Community resources area thus enables valuable work from the past to be retained for use by specific communities, but in a way that is consistent

with the internationalization of RDA. It also opens the door for further community contributions in the future.

Search results in RDA Toolkit now contain a separate section for Community resources content that is retrieved.

The Community resources area is a work-in-progress and should be considered a first attempt by the RSC to create a structure that can support future growth. The RSC will continue to review and develop this area, and changes to the content and structure should be expected with every Toolkit release.

### Background

The Community resources area grew from work begun in 2019 by the RSC on string encoding schemes (SEs). At its meeting in Santiago in October 2019, the RSC took the decision that RDA instructions related to SEs should be relocated to the Resources tab, as the choice of SE values and punctuation patterns, primarily in access points, pertain to a particular community and are not internationally applicable. The Community resources area emerged from a deep look at reorganizing the Resources tab and has been under continuous discussion by the RSC since that time. It first appeared in the September 2020 RDA Toolkit release. At this time, Community resources content only appears in the English language version of the Toolkit.

### Structure

The [Community resources](#) area is located on the Resources tab of RDA Toolkit.

Community resources are subarranged into two areas: [Community refinements](#) and [Community vocabularies](#).

Community refinements provide more granular community-based refinements of RDA instructions to support string encoding schemes, transcription rules, and other string processing functions.

Some refinements are legacy instructions that may have been used in RDA metadata statements in the

past. Community refinements are organized by entity, then subarranged by element.

Community vocabularies contain controlled terms for use as values of specific RDA elements.

Some vocabularies may have incomplete coverage or lack definitions or notations. Some are legacy vocabularies that contain terms that may have been used in RDA metadata statements in the past.

### **Other types of Community Content in RDA Toolkit**

There are two other types of community content in RDA Toolkit which form two ends of a spectrum: policy statements and contributed documents.

Policy statements are fully integrated into RDA Toolkit, with content appearing on the right side of a page linked to an option or a header within base RDA (with certain settings). Policy statements describe the formal policy of a community and are usually provided by policy experts at a national library or professional organization. They record the decisions of the community's application profile regarding the implementation of an RDA element using consistent language. They may also include additional details about the implementation of the instruction.

Contributed documents are entirely under local control and are not integrated into base RDA content. They are found on the Documents button on the top Toolbar. Contributed documents allow users to create documents that can be used privately or shared locally or globally. There are several document type categories. Documents may have multiple owners who can edit the documents; viewing and subscribing to a document is possible with certain settings. User-contributed documents are fully under local control and are not reviewed for compliance with RDA principles.

The Community resources area occupies a middle ground.

### **The role of the Community Resources**

Community resources content is the place for a community to conveniently link further refinements and vocabularies to provide a more granular standardization of practices for their specific area. Here individual communities will have greater control over how the content they produce using RDA will be formed. Examples of this type of content might include:

- Normalizing data found in manifestations (capitalization, etc.)
- Access point construction (string encoding schemes)
- Community vocabularies (e.g., gender)
- Extensions to carrier and content types
- Subtypes of RDA entities and elements (including new "shortcut" relationship elements)
- Community application profiles
- Suggested friendly labels for elements.

The RSC expects to design processes that allow for low-barrier content creation, maintenance, and sharing. The RSC anticipates creating a written agreement, primarily to be able to assure responsibility for ongoing maintenance, and a streamlined contribution process. Templates, workflow, and general guidance are under active discussion. Community resources content is expected to be lightly reviewed by the RSC Technical Working Group to assure conformance with RDA and LRM principles.

The RDA Registry provides a set of value vocabularies that are used in base RDA which specify Simple Knowledge Organization System (SKOS) concepts and labels. Communities may wish to consider approaching the RSC to host vocabulary extensions in the RDA Registry which then could be linked in Community Resources.

**Next steps**

The RSC encourages a community that wishes to explore the idea of adding content to Community resources to contact the RSC Chair ([rscchair@rdatoolkit.org](mailto:rscchair@rdatoolkit.org)).

The Community resources area will continue to evolve and develop under RSC discussion and review. There are questions yet to be answered and processes yet to be developed. The RSC welcomes inquiries from communities and looks forward to collaborative relationships and productive discussion.

**UPCOMING EVENTS****IFLA WLIC 2021 - 17-19 AUGUST****BCM Review Group**

- Business Meeting I: Tuesday, August 10 — 2:30-4 pm
- Business Meeting II: Friday, August 27 — 3:15 - 4:45 pm

**Bib-LD Study Group**

- Business Meeting: Wednesday, August 11 — 1-3 pm

**Bibliography Section**

- Standing Committee I: Wednesday, August 4 — 2-4 pm
- Standing Committee II: Monday, August 23 — 2:30-4:30 pm

**Cataloguing Section**

- Standing Committee I: Monday, August 16 — 2-4 pm
- Standing Committee II: Tuesday, August 24 — 2:30-4 pm

**Committee on Standards**

- Business Meeting I: Monday, August 2 — 2-4 pm
- Business Meeting II: Wednesday, August 25 — 2-4 pm

**ISBD Review Group**

- Business Meeting I: Monday, August 9 — 1-3 pm
- Business Meeting II: September 2021 (date to be announced separately)

**LIDATEC**

- Business Meeting: Thursday, August 12 — 2-4 pm

**MulDiCat Editorial Group**

- Business Meeting: Friday, August 27 — 2-3 pm

**Permanent Unimarc Committee**

(to be confirmed)

- Business Meeting: Friday, August 13 — 2-4 pm

**Subject Analysis and Access**

- Standing Committee I: Tuesday, August 3 — 3-5 pm
- Standing Committee II: Thursday, August 26

For more information about the Bibliographic Sections' and other metadata related Open sessions, meetings etc., please follow information at the section web and social media:

[Bibliography Section](#)

[Cataloguing Section](#)

[Subject Analysis and Access Section](#)

**BIBFRAME WORKSHOP IN EUROPE - 5TH  
ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 21-23**

By **Harriet Aagaard**, National Library of Sweden.



The 2021 workshop is a virtual workshop free of charge. Any one interested in BIBFRAME, Linked data & libraries are welcome. Call for proposals will end at 30 June and the program will be published in July at the [BIBFRAME Workshop Webpage](#)