

**Manuscript cataloguing in
comparative perspective
State of the art
Common challenges
Future directions
...
to sum up**



Common challenges for mss

- Unique cultural heritage objects
- Individual cultural heritage objects
- Valuable cultural heritage objects
- Variety: time, place, language, materiality, tradition
- Variety: research aspects
- History and itinerary
- Learnt audience
- Invite various forms of contextualisation

Manuscripts and more:

- Preservation, conservation, exhibition of unique objects
- Photo archives
- Microforms
- Digital copies

Description of Manuscripts

- Long tradition or complete absence
- Hidden information resources, threatened by oblivion, loss, destruction
- Legacy cataloguing: print, mss: conversion
- Various Databases: risk of obsolescence, need for migration, long term concern
- New tools: electronic editions, OCR, image annotation, visualisation, lexicology
- Long term archiving – long term access

Manuscripts today:

- remain on the agenda, value and interest, ongoing research process
- on the agenda of the research library: description and access
- Resource description and access (RDA): IFLA standard
- Working Group (D-A-CH, Germany, Austria, Switzerland): RDA and manuscripts (RDA und Handschriften)



- Main page
- Contents
- Featured content
- Current events
- Random article
- Donate to Wikipedia
- Wikipedia store

- Interaction
- Help
- About Wikipedia
- Community portal
- Recent changes
- Contact page

- Tools
- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Permanent link
- Page information
- Wikidata item
- Cite this page

- Print/export
- Create a book
- Download as PDF
- Printable version

Languages

- العربية
- Deutsch
- Español
- Français
- Italiano
- தமிழ்
- 中文

5 more [Edit links](#)

Resource Description and Access

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is a standard for descriptive [cataloging](#) ^[a] initially released in June 2010,^[1] providing instructions and guidelines on formulating [bibliographic data](#) ^[a]. Intended for use by [libraries](#) ^[a] and other cultural organizations such as museums and archives, RDA is the successor to [Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules](#) ^[a], *Second Edition* (AACR2).

Contents [hide]
1 Background
2 Features
3 RDA Vocabularies
4 Internationalization
5 Adoption of RDA
5.1 Opposition
6 See also
7 References
8 External links

Background [edit]

RDA emerged from the International Conference on the Principles & Future Development of AACR held in Toronto in 1997.^[2] It is published jointly by the [American Library Association](#) ^[a], the [Canadian Federation of Library Associations](#), and the [Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals](#) ^[a] (CILIP) in the United Kingdom. Maintenance of RDA is the responsibility of the RDA Steering Committee (RSC). As of 2015, RSC is undergoing a transition to an international governance structure, expected to be in place in 2019.^[3]

RDA instructions and guidelines are available through RDA Toolkit, an online subscription service, and in a print format.

RDA training materials and texts are available online and in print.^[4]

Features [edit]

RDA is a package of data elements, guidelines, and instructions for creating library and cultural heritage resource metadata that are well-formed according to international models for user-focussed linked data applications.^[5] The underlying conceptual models for RDA are the [Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records](#) ^[a] (FRBR), [Functional Requirements for Authority Data](#) ^[a] (FRAD), and [Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Data](#) ^[a] (FRSAD) maintained by IFLA ^[a], and will be compliant with the IFLA Library Reference Model that consolidates them.^[6]

RDA Vocabularies [edit]

RDA Vocabularies is a representation of the RDA entities, elements, relationship designators, and controlled terms in RDF ^[a] (Resource Description Framework). The Vocabularies are intended to support [linked data](#) ^[a] applications using RDA. They are maintained in the Open Metadata Registry,^[7] a [metadata registry](#) ^[a], and released via [GitHub](#) ^[a] and the RDA Registry.

The human-readable labels, definitions, and other textual annotations in the Vocabularies are known as RDA Reference. The RDA Reference data are used in the production of RDA Toolkit content.^[8]

The RDA Vocabularies and RDA Reference are available under an open licence.

Internationalization [edit]

About the RDA Registry and vocabularies

Representing the RDA ontology

- [4-fold path](#)
- [Datatype and object element sets](#)
- [Element set families](#)
- [Class hierarchies](#)
- [Relationship matrix](#)

4-fold path

The RDA Development Team is developing extensions to the RDA element sets to accommodate data from the "4-fold path".

There are three methods for using a string to identify a related entity:

- An **unstructured description**: a plain literal, for example a free text note or a transcription.
- A **structured description**: a literal typed with a form of syntax encoding scheme that aggregates literal values from other elements, for example a name/title access point.
- An **identifier**: a literal that may be typed with a form of syntax encoding scheme that aggregates literal values from other elements, for example an ISBN or local identifier.

The fourth method uses a **URI** to identify the related entity as a linked data thing.


RDA Vocabularies and RDA Registry are licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#). Based on a work at <http://rdaregistry.info>.




This page was last updated 28 Dec 2016.


Mss and authority files


- access and interoperability of information in the semantic web.
- Early examples: IFLA-Authority lists for religious works, PMA, medieval authors
- GND (Gemeinsame Normdatei), CERL Thesaurus, Getty Thesauri: unique, interoperable designation of entities (ID-numbers, DOI, URN – more important than semantic value)

Die Gemeinsame Normdatei enthält ca. 13,6 Mio. Datensätze (Stand: 2016)^{[2][3]} folgender [Entitätentypen](#) :

Code	Entitätentyp	Datensätze (Juni 2013)	(2015)	(2016)
p	Personen (individualisiert)	2.882.000	(keine Angabe)	(keine Angabe)
--	Personennamen (nicht individualisiert)	4.628.000	(keine Angabe)	(keine Angabe)
--	Personen und Personennamen (gesamt)	(7.510.000)	8.669.790	10.546.959
k	Körperschaften	1.172.000	1.240.852	1.498.606
v	Konferenzen und Veranstaltungen	587.000	619.610	769.067
g	Geografika	293.000	289.449	295.027
s	Sachbegriffe	202.000	205.586	207.149
w	Werke	193.000	244.480	287.204
--	gesamt	(9.957.000)	11.269.767	13.604.012

Die hier aufgeführten Entitätentypen entsprechen in Bibliotheken sogenannten Satzarten ([Datensatzart](#) ). Abgesehen von Personennamen kann jede Satzart durch die Angabe eines Entitätencodes^[4] in sich weiter differenziert werden. So kann ein Geografikum beispielsweise ein Bauwerk, aber auch ein Staat sein. Insgesamt stehen rund 50 Entitätentypen zur Verfügung.

In der Gemeinsamen Normdatei wird zu jeder Entitätenbeschreibung eine eindeutige Identifikationsnummer (Grundlage für den [Uniform Resource Identifier](#) ) , eine normierte Vorzugsbenennung, abweichende Namensformen und verschiedene beschreibende Attribute verzeichnet. Die Attribute werden möglichst als Relationen zu anderen Normdatensätzen abgelegt, wobei die Art der Beziehung jeweils codiert ist.^[5] Beispiele für relationierte Attribute sind Geburts- und Sterbeorte von Personen sowie ihre Berufe. Für Körperschaften können u. a. Vorgänger- und Nachfolgerbeziehungen, aber auch administrative Überordnungen angegeben werden.

Auf diese Weise entsteht ein Netz von miteinander in Beziehung stehenden Datensätzen ([Linked Data](#) ), das sich besonders für die Nutzung im Web eignet, die Navigation innerhalb der Normdatei erlaubt und somit die Recherchemöglichkeiten für Nutzer verbessert.

CERL Thesaurus

accessing the record of Europe's book heritage

Toolbox

 Change Font

 Virtual Keyboard

Search

Places Printers etc. Authors etc. Corporate Bodies Provenance Information

[More search options...](#)

Your Clipboard

You may add records to this clipboard during your session by clicking the  icon next to a record or below a record's full display.

New Files in the CERL Thesaurus

University of Barcelona, Biblioteca de Reserva: Former Owners (personal and corporate) of books, which are part of the Biblioteca de Reserva (15th to 18th cent. prints, mainly from religious institutions in and around Barcelona), held by the University Library of Barcelona. Many of these records link out to images of provenance marks. [Read more...](#)

CANTIC: Co-operative authority file created by the Consortium of Catalan University Libraries and the National Library of Catalonia (Biblioteca de Catalunya) in Barcelona.

Biblioteka Narodowa: Authority file for personal names, corporate bodies and printers from the National Library of Poland.

New Features

More than 600,000 records have been linked to their respective entries in [VIAF](#), [DBpedia](#), [Genoames](#) and the Linked Data services of a number of libraries and library consortia. Where available, links to [Wikipedia](#) have been added, too.

Links to the portal [Deutsche Biographie](#) have been added to ca. 65,000 personal names records.

Licence



The CERL Thesaurus data is available under the terms of [Etalab's Open Licence](#), which can be considered equivalent to ODC-BY and CC-BY 2.0. Please see here for the full legal text of the licence in [French](#) or [English](#)

Mss and authority files

- Mss databases can profit from authority work (use of ID-numbers)
- Mss databases can contribute to authority work: research proved information, quality authority data

Mss and digitization of the originals

- Triggers integration into common access and discovery systems
- Streamlined workflow from the catalogue record to a digital workflow tool, taking basic metadata for the presentation, link to digital copy automatically integrated into the record.
- Automated transfer to digital portals, union catalogues
- Availability of services: viewers, download, links
- Need for metadata – calling for description and interoperability, easy access to special tools.

Mss and IIF

- interoperability framework – digital images leave their silos
- image first: work on the image, annotation of the image
- evidence
- creation of „new“ mss. – reconstruction of dispersed mss.

« Informationen über dieses Objekt

Layout ändern Vollbild

☰ Ottheinrich-Bibel, Bd. 6: Kol 3,22 - Apg 10,4 - BSB Cgm 8010(6)

📄 ⏪ ⏩ 🔍 🔄

- Vorderer Spiegel
- Textanfang: Kolosserbriefe
- **Miniatur: Christi Himmelfahrt**
- Miniatur: Wahl des Apostels Matthias
- Miniatur: Pfingstwunder
- Miniatur: Petrus heilt einen Lahmen
- Miniatur: Petrus und Johannes vor dem hohen Rat
- Miniatur: Der tote Hananias wird fortgetragen
- Miniatur: Petrus heilt eine Lahmen / Verhaftung der Apostel
- Miniatur: Stephanus vor dem hohen Rat
- Miniatur: Steinigung des Stephanus
- Miniatur: Philippus und der Kämmerer aus Äthiopien

The image displays a manuscript page from the Ottheinrich Bible, folio 0007. The page features a central miniature of the Ascension of Christ, where Jesus is shown rising into a cloud and being taken up to heaven, surrounded by a group of people in medieval attire. The text is written in Gothic script, with red initials and rubrics. The page is part of a digital viewer interface, with a list of thumbnails at the bottom and navigation controls on the left and right sides.

Mss – Entities – Network

define entities, desambiguate entities, name entities

- Mss = material object of the real world: ISMI (International Standard Mss Identifier): repository (ISIL) and shelfmark. GND: authority record for „Schriftdenkmal“ (wis). Handschriftenportal: Kulturobjektdokument (KOD) and (several) description of the object.

Mss – Entities – Network

- Vs. digital copies of the mss (URL, URN, ark, DOI)
- Vs. Descriptions of a mss. (database or portal ID numbers, e.g. RISM, Diktyon)

Texts – Works (RDA)

(e.g. Handschriftencensus: cooperation with GND)

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- [Class hierarchies](#)
- [Relationship matrix](#)

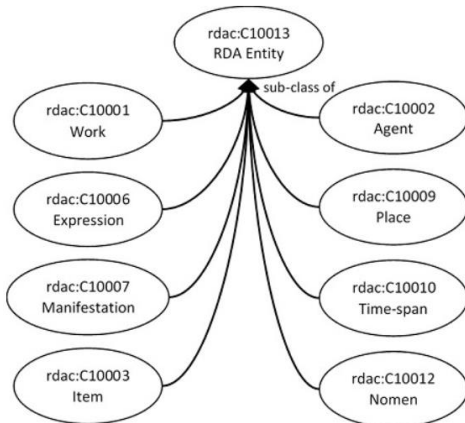
Class hierarchies

There are two hierarchies within the RDA Class element set.

They align RDA with the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM).

Entity hierarchy

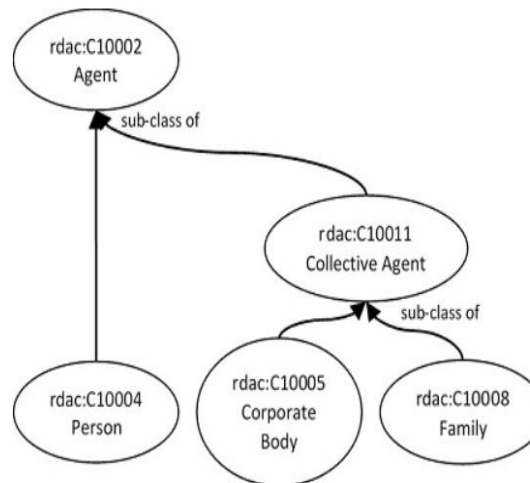
"RDA entity" is a super-class of all other RDA classes representing entities.



RDF graph of the class hierarchy of RDA Entity.

Agent hierarchy

"Agent" is a super-class of "Collective Agent" and "Person"; "Collective Agent" is a super-class of "Corporate Body" and "Family".



RDF graph of the class hierarchy of RDA Agent.

The hierarchies are also represented between properties using RDFS sub-property relationships.

See [RDA curie prefixes](#) for compact URIs used in this page.



Mss – Entities – Network

- Provenance information
- Persons, institutions, languages, countries, material support, time, place ...
- Watermarks, bindings: specialist databases



Now freely available at hpb.cerl.org



fuzzy search

digital copy available

[More information about the HPB](#)

Promoting Europe's cultural heritage in print and manuscript

CERL seeks to share resources and expertise between research libraries with a view to improving access to, as well as exploitation and preservation of the European printed heritage in the hand-press period (up to c. 1850). The organisation was formed in 1992 on the initiative of research libraries in many European countries and legally came into being in June 1994. For a good overview of CERL services and activities see, Ingeborg Versprille, Marian Lefferts and Cristina Dondi, 'The Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL): twenty years of promoting Europe's cultural heritage in print and manuscript', in *027.7 Zeitschrift für Bibliothekskultur*, 2,1 (2014): Konsortien & Konsorten, pp. 30-40. Online journal of the University of Basel, Switzerland, ISSN 2296-0597. [Read more...](#)

-  **HPB DATABASE**
-  **CERL THESAURUS**
-  **CERL PORTAL**
-  **MEI**
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-  **HOSTED DATABASES**



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All words

Person ? Place ?

Title Shelfmark

Subject Year

CONSORTIUM of EUROPEAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

CERL Manuscripts Expert Group | Start | CERL Thesaurus | HPB Search | Search help | CERL Website

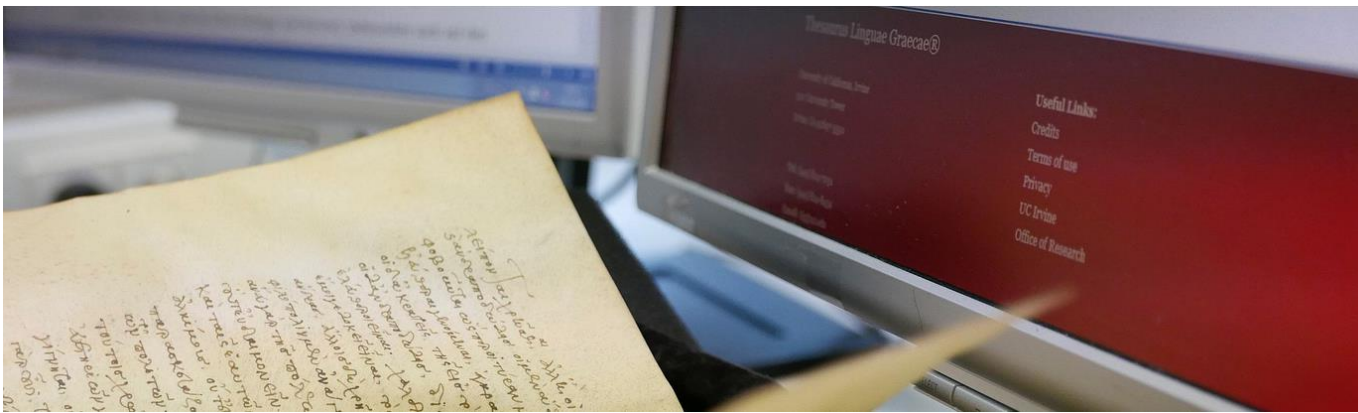
The CERL Portal

Manuscripts and Early Printed Material

<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscripts, Archives, and Letters (3,080,000 records)			<input type="checkbox"/> Early Printed Material, 1450-1830 (8,000,000 records)
<input type="checkbox"/> All Periods (360,000)	<input type="checkbox"/> Only Medieval (20,000)	<input type="checkbox"/> Only Modern (2,700,000)	Union Catalogues & National Bibliographies
<input type="checkbox"/> National Library of Portugal	<input type="checkbox"/> BSB Munich: Digitised manuscripts	<input type="checkbox"/> National Library of Australia	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscriptorium (printed material): Eastern European (and other) countries.
<input type="checkbox"/> Ghent UL, Belgium	<input type="checkbox"/> Mediaeval latin mss. in Lund UL, Sweden	<input type="checkbox"/> Waller Collection, Uppsala UL, Sweden	<input type="checkbox"/> * VD17, German National bibliography 1601-1700
<input type="checkbox"/> Nuova Biblioteca Manoscritta	<input type="checkbox"/> MMDC, Medieval Mss. in Dutch Collections	<input type="checkbox"/> EDIFFAH, Archival deposits in Swedish libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> * ESTC, English Short Title Catalogue 1473-1800
<input type="checkbox"/> Yale University Library, US	<input type="checkbox"/> e-codices - Virtual Manuscript Library of Switzerland	<input type="checkbox"/> National Library of Austria	<input type="checkbox"/> * EROMM, European Register of Microform and digital Masters
<input type="checkbox"/> CALAMES, Union catalogue of mss. in French Academic libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital Scriptorium, Columbia UL, USA	<input type="checkbox"/> * [KALLIAS, DLA (Germany)] - Press the Info button	<input type="checkbox"/> * HPB (CERL), Heritage of the Printed Book (including ISTC, SBN(A), STCN, VD16 etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> MANUS, Mss. in Italian Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscriptorium (mss.): Eastern European (and other) countries	<input type="checkbox"/> * KALLIOPE, uniting the holdings of ca. 500 collections (Germany)	<input type="checkbox"/> * CCPB, Uniting printed heritage material of Spain (to 1900, incl. mss.)
<input type="checkbox"/> * Royal Library, Denmark			
<input type="checkbox"/> * National Library of Scotland			
<input type="checkbox"/> * GVK, Union catalogue of GBV network (Germany)			

* Remote systems (z39.50), which will time-out if too many variant forms are added

Language: Dansk | Deutsch | English | Español | Français | Hrvatski | Italiano | Nederlands | Svenska



Handreichungen für die Digitalisierung

Handschriftenzentren

Aktuelles

Handschriftenportal

Beirat

Materialien

Publikationen

- Handreichungen für Handschriftendigitalisierungsprojekte im Überblick (2018)
- Ergebnisse der Pilotphase Handschriftendigitalisierung (2015)
 - ⇒ Digitalisierung mittelalterlicher Handschriften in deutschen Bibliotheken: Ergebnisse der Pilotphase (PDF)
 - ⇒ Digitalisierung mittelalterlicher Handschriften in deutschen Bibliotheken: Masterplan (PDF)
 - ⇒ Planungshilfe für Antragsteller: Workflow für die Digitalisierung mittelalterlicher Handschriften (PDF)
- Liste von handschriftenspezifischen Strukturelementen für den DFG-Viewer

Weitere Hilfsmittel

- Einbanddatenbank
- Grotefeld online
- Historische Schreibsprachen – Internetbibliographie
- Wasserzeichen-Informationssystem
- Cantus-Datenbank und Cantus-Index