EURIG Activities
2011-2012

Report
to
FRBR Review Group
CATALOGUING SECTION
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS
AND INSTITUTIONS
WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS

78th IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, HELSINKI, FINLAND
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The European RDA Interest Group (EURIG) was formed to promote the common professional interests of all users, and potential users, of *RDA: Resource Description and Access*, in Europe.

EURIG developed from informal discussions between European national libraries concerned with the development, translation and implementation of RDA. It was formally launched in Copenhagen on 27th September 2011.

The **inaugural EURIG members' meeting** was hosted by Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, in Frankfurt am Main, on 8th December.
It was followed by a **EURIG technical meeting** hosted by the Bibliothèque nationale de France, in Paris, on 27th January 2012. This technical meeting was focused on cataloguing rules and its purpose was to review issues which the French Working Group on RDA within AFNOR and other EURIG members had identified as potential obstacles to the adoption or implementation of RDA.

The EURIG technical meeting focused on the following aspects:
- interpretation of the FRBR model, more particularly with regard to the identification of Expressions and the way aggregates are dealt with
- internationalization of the cataloguing code (identification of places, reference to international standards)
- RDA as a content standard

The *Outcomes of the EURIG technical meeting, Paris January 27, 2012* [1]are available on EURIG's web site.

Four proposals for evolution of RDA and a discussion paper have been prepared by EURIG and sent to JSC for consideration at its November 2012 meeting[2.] All of them concern the identification of Expressions:

- o 6JSC/EURIG/1   Addition of examples in RDA 6.12.1.3 and 6.27.3

- o 6JSC/EURIG/2   Date of expression - Revision of RDA 6.10.1.1 and 6.10.1.3

- o 6JSC/EURIG/3   Language of expression - Revision of RDA 6.11, 6.11.1.3, 6.11.1.4, 7.12.1.3, 26.1.1.3

- o 6JSC/EURIG/4   Musical arrangements - Revision of RDA 6.18.1.4 and 6.28.3.2.1

- o 6JSC/EURIG/Discussion/1   Musical arrangements: discussion paper

As to the FRBR model, the AFNOR, as a result of its examination of the RDA rules, highlighted three points on which it would be desirable to modify the model:

- - **The format of notated music** should be clarified, as it covers and confuses information elements that pertain to physical presentation and are therefore at the Manifestation level (e.g., score and parts), and information elements that indicate content alterations and are therefore at the Expression level (e.g., condensed score, piano score).
  For the time being, both FRBR ("type of score" attribute) and RDA regard the format of notated music as an attribute of the Expression entity only.
  Besides, there should be a distinction between the musical format statement as transcribed from the resource described (at the Manifestation level) and controlled information associated with some controlled vocabulary .
  As this issue was raised by the ISBD RG, and IAML is about to draft a request for modification, EURIG is waiting for the answer to IAML's request. But the latter should not affect RDA only, the FRBR model also has to be modified.
  A request for a change in the model could be introduced jointly by IAML and EURIG on the basis of the conclusions of IAML's current reflection on the topic (which was discussed this year on the occasion of the IAML Congress in Montreal).

- - **The scale** for cartographic resources is currently defined as an attribute of the Expression entity. However, librarians specializing in cartographic resources regard the scale as an information element pertaining to the Work (the very conception of a map takes the scale into account), while they also consider that in some cases it should be allowed to record it at the Expression level as well (as the same cartographic Work can be released in a number of distinct versions with different scales). Finally, it should be possible to transcribe, at the Manifestation level, the scale statement as found on the resource described, especially for ancient documents.
  Miriam Säfström (Sweden) and Françoise Leresche (France) are members of the FRBR RG. It was decided that they would draft a request for a change in the model, which would be submitted to the FRBR RG. This request has not been drafted yet, as it requires further investigation in collaboration with colleagues specializing in the cataloguing of cartographic resources.

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[1] http://www.slainte.org.uk/eurig/docs/1201Paris/1201ParisOutcomes.pdf
[2] Available on JSC's web site: http://www.rda-jsc.org/workingnew.html.

- **The attribution relationship** should be associated with the relevant entity within the FRBR model (i.e., Work in the case of the attribution of a Work creation, Expression in the case of the attribution of a contribution). At the moment, the FRBR and FRAD models do not handle the attribution relationship. It should be defined and reflected in the model.
  EURIG would like to submit this issue to the FRBR RG.

Besides, the way RDA handles **aggregates** was deemed debatable under various aspects. It lacks both precision and consistency. It leads to creating as many Expressions, or even Works, as there are Manifestations.
EURIG has therefore decided to form a **working group** to further investigate the **aggregates** issue at the light of the *Final Report of the Working Group on Aggregates, September 12, 2011*[3]. It seems as the current treatment of aggregates is neither as consistent nor time-efficient as principles 2.7 and 2.8 from *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles*[4] suggest. The working group will make an inventory of these problems and inform the FRBR RG and JSC respectively. To this purpose the Working Group will study and comment working documents and plans from the different EURIG members.

The EURIG Working Group on Aggregates has to address both:
- augmentations (illustrations, forewords and other supplementary contents), which are dealt with by RDA at the Expression level (7.15 Illustrative content, 716 Supplementary content)
- compilations of Works by one author or by different authors.

This working group gathers representatives for Sweden (Miriam Säfström, chair), Austria (Verena Schaffner), France (Philippe Le Pape, Françoise Leresche), Germany (Christian Schütz, Reinhold Heuvelmann, Christine Frodl, and Susanne Oehlschlaeger), and the United-Kingdom (BL representative to be appointed).
Its first meeting will be held in Helsinki on Wednesday 15 August, from 4.00pm to 5.30 pm, at the National Library of Finland.
Preparatory documents were drafted by the French Working Group on RDA to serve as a basis for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chair of the French Working Group on RDA (AFNOR)

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[3] http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/frbrrg/AggregatesFinalReport.pdf
[4] http://www.ifla.org/files/cataloguing/icp/icp_2009-en.pdf
2.7. *Economy.* When alternative ways exist to achieve a goal, preference should be given to the way that best furthers overall economy (i.e., the least cost or the simplest approach).
2.8. *Consistency and standardization.* Descriptions and construction of access points should be standardized as far as possible. This enables greater consistency, which in turn increases the ability to share bibliographic and authority data.