"It's not you, it's (all of) us": Internationalizing RDA

Dr. Ahava Cohen
Europe representative, RDA Steering Committee
Head, Cataloguing Section, National Library of Israel

European RDA Interest Group

R | D | A

Resource Description & Access

Not your mother's ivory tower

National Library of Israel:

3 descriptive cataloguing departments

- Hebrew: 6.5 FTE, ~2000 titles/month

- Arabic: 4.2 FTE, ~700 titles/month

- Foreign Languages: 6.6 FTE, ~1700 titles/month

Mazal – the Israel National Authority File

- ~1.9 million name authority records

- multiscript (Arabic, Cyrillic, Hebrew, Latin)

R D A

Resource Description & Access

European RDA Interest Group (EURIG)

- 52 members
- 31 countries
- 28+ languages
- 5 scripts

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

EURIG Activities

- Annual Meeting (via Zoom since 2020)
- RDA in Europe Day (since 2019) – 17/11/22
  - Programme : http://www.rda-rsc.org/node/725
  - Registration: https://delegia.com/rdaineurope2022
- EURIG mailing list: https://groups.google.com/g/eurig
- RDA Translators' Meetings (in conjunction with RSC or EURIG Annual Meetings)

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

EURIG participation in RDA

- Editorial Committee
- Task and Done WGs
- Translations WG
- RSC position holders (starting 2023):
  - Chair: Renate Behrens, Germany
  - Secretary: Anne Welsh, UK
  - Translation Team Liaison: Szabolcs Dancs, Hungary

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

Internationalization 11 years on

R|D|A

Resource Description & Access

OG Toolkit

- Internationalization of governance
  - DNB sits in on JSC meeting, Nov. 2011
    - Outcome: Committee of Principals to add 2 more members to JSC by 2015
      - EURIG joined RSC 2016
      - NARDAC & ORDAC joined 2018
  - Founding of EURIG, Dec. 2011
  - Deutsche Nationalbibliothek joins JSC 2012

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

OG Toolkit

- **Internationalization of implementation**
  - Subscribers in 65+ countries/6 continents
  - RDA Registry

New Toolkit

Shift in focus:
Internationalization of Toolkit content

- RDA Board
  - Internationalization of content first mention in 2019 Outcomes
  - Internationalization Principles posted 2020

R|D|A
Resource Description & Access

New Toolkit

- RSC
  - Change in RSC meeting schedules
  - 2019 draft report
    "Western and Christian Bias
    in the 3R Toolkit"
  - 2019 RSC meeting outcomes:
    "The RSC is increasingly aware of and is taking steps to remove the Anglo-American focus of the content."

R|D|A
Resource Description & Access

What does internationalization look like?

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

Governance

- Multiple asynchronous RSC meetings
- WCEO position
- Flexibility in boundaries of RDA regions

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

Official RDA Toolkit

- RSC
  - Boilerplate text
  - Legacy Anglo-American guidelines moved out of base RDA
  - Fast tracks proposals

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

Working Groups

Peter Rolla, USA, Chair

Christel Kayser, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg

Hannes Lowagie, Royal Library of Belgium (KBR)

Hanock Roniger, Israel

Valentina Sebastiani, Swiss National Library

Daniel Paradis, RSC Translation Team Liaison Officer, ex officio

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

C.0   Scope

This appendix lists initial articles that are to be omitted when applying the alternative instructions to record titles for works and names of persons, corporate bodies, and places. The list includes initial articles in a selected number of languages.

C.2   Articles Listed by Language

An asterisk (*) after an article indicates that the same form is also used in other contexts (e.g., the cardinal numeral *one*, a demonstrative pronoun). For those words, take care to determine the meaning before omitting the word.

Hebrew	ה
	ha-, he-

Terms in Hebrew

Select Policy Statement Set (1)

LC-PCC PS ⌄

This page presents content from the Anglo-American community that originated with instructions in AACR2 and original RDA. The instructions here were intended for the use of cataloguers working with materials in this language but using English as their language of cataloguing. Other instructions may need to be developed, or this page formally approved, when this language is the language of cataloguing.

Initial articles of names of RDA entities in Hebrew

Treat the following words and prefixes as initial articles.

- *ה*
- *ha-*
- *he-*

R | D | A

Resource Description & Access

Why should NARDAC care?

R | D | A

Resource Description & Access

Advantages of internationalization

- Over 61% of WorldCat is non-English
- Well-developed/maintained Community Resources will support data exchange
- CR section allows codification of both Anglo-American practice and local practices (win-win)
- Expanded opportunities for contributions to RDA frees up resources

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

Questions?

Dr. Ahava Cohen

Europe representative, RDA Steering Committee
Head, Cataloguing Section, National Library of Israel

E-mail: ahava.cohen@nli.org.il
Whatsapp: +972-54-549-3644
Twitter: @AhavaCohen

R|D|A
Resource Description & Access