

RDA / UNIMARC harmonization: UPDATE #4

Structuring principles, current situation and upcoming work

RDA in Europe Annual Meeting, May 16th 2024

Florence Tfibel (BnF, France), on behalf of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC, IFLA)



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Presentation plan

1. Implementing LRM and RDA in UNIMARC : structuring principles and strategic decisions
1. PUC activities in 2023-2024
1. Ongoing and upcoming work

LRM AND RDA IN UNIMARC

Structuring principles and strategic choices

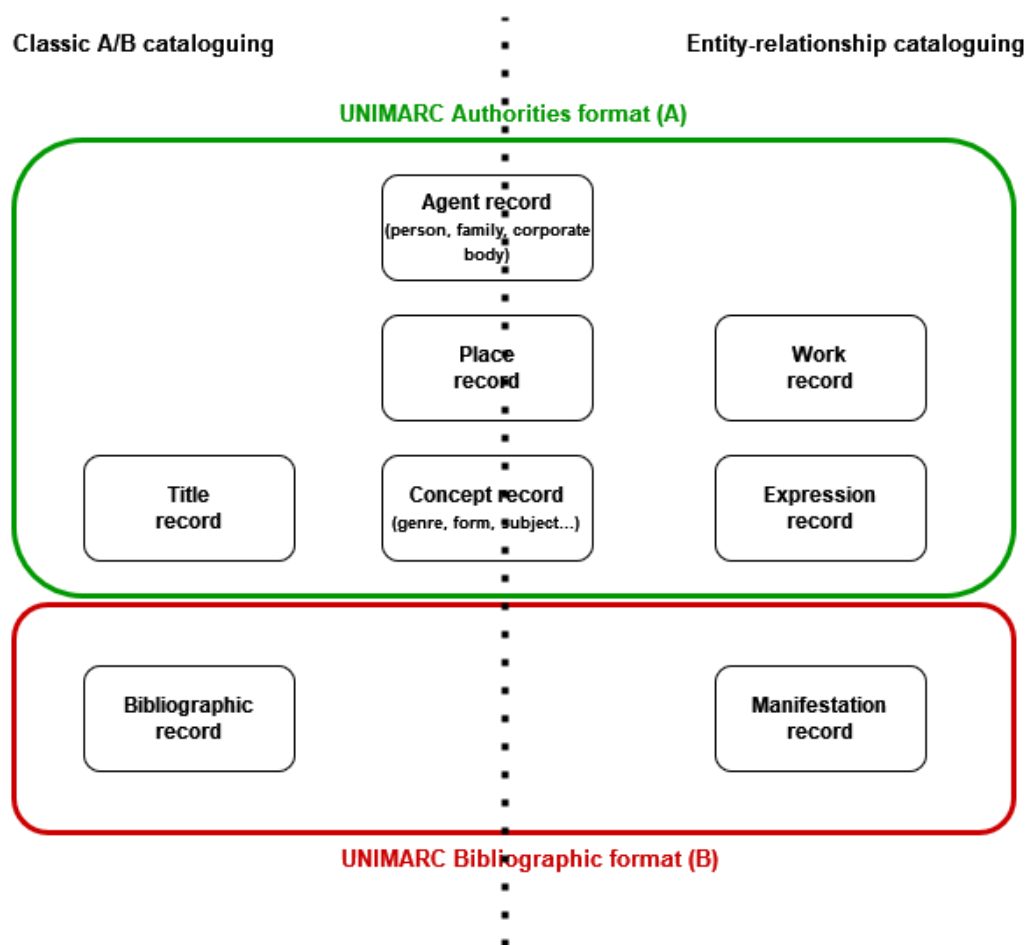
General principles

Compatibility of IFLA standards

- Full LRM implementation
- RDA as an intermediary (but also ISBD-M)

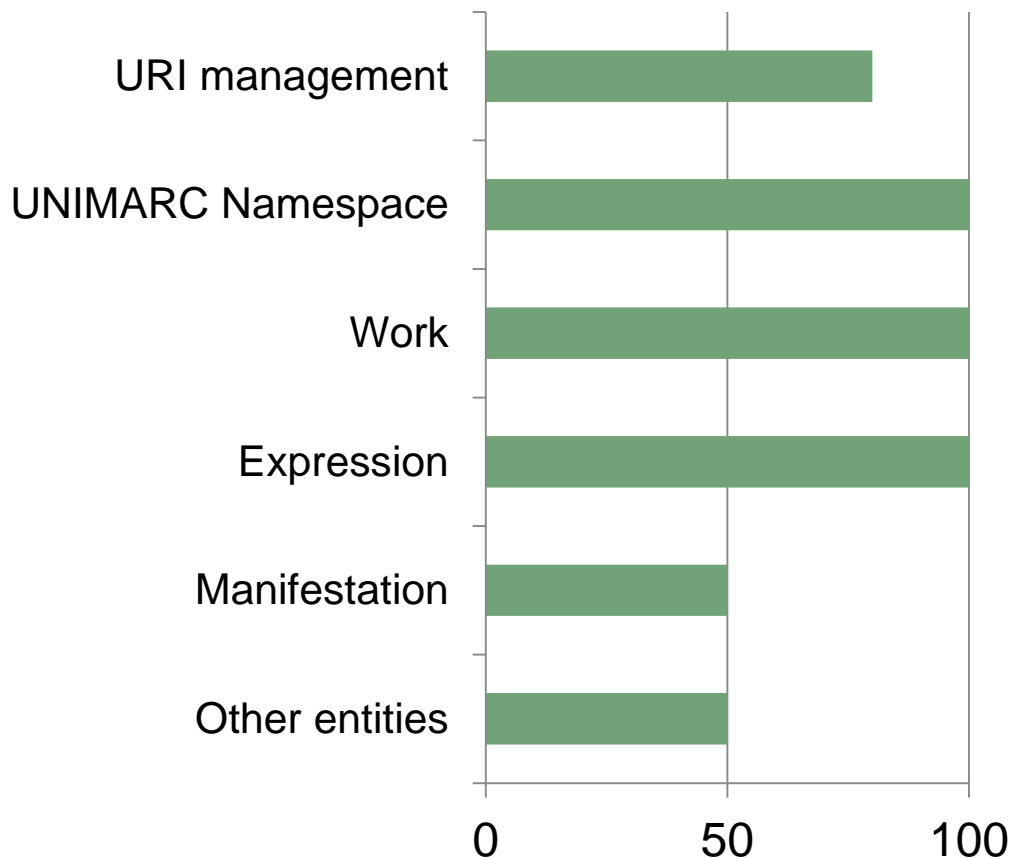
One format, two cataloguing options

- Not a new, distinct format
- But also direct entity relationship management



Current situation : almost there for UNIMARC ER !

How far along are we ?



An experimental dataset



Transition bibliographique
des catalogues vers le web de données

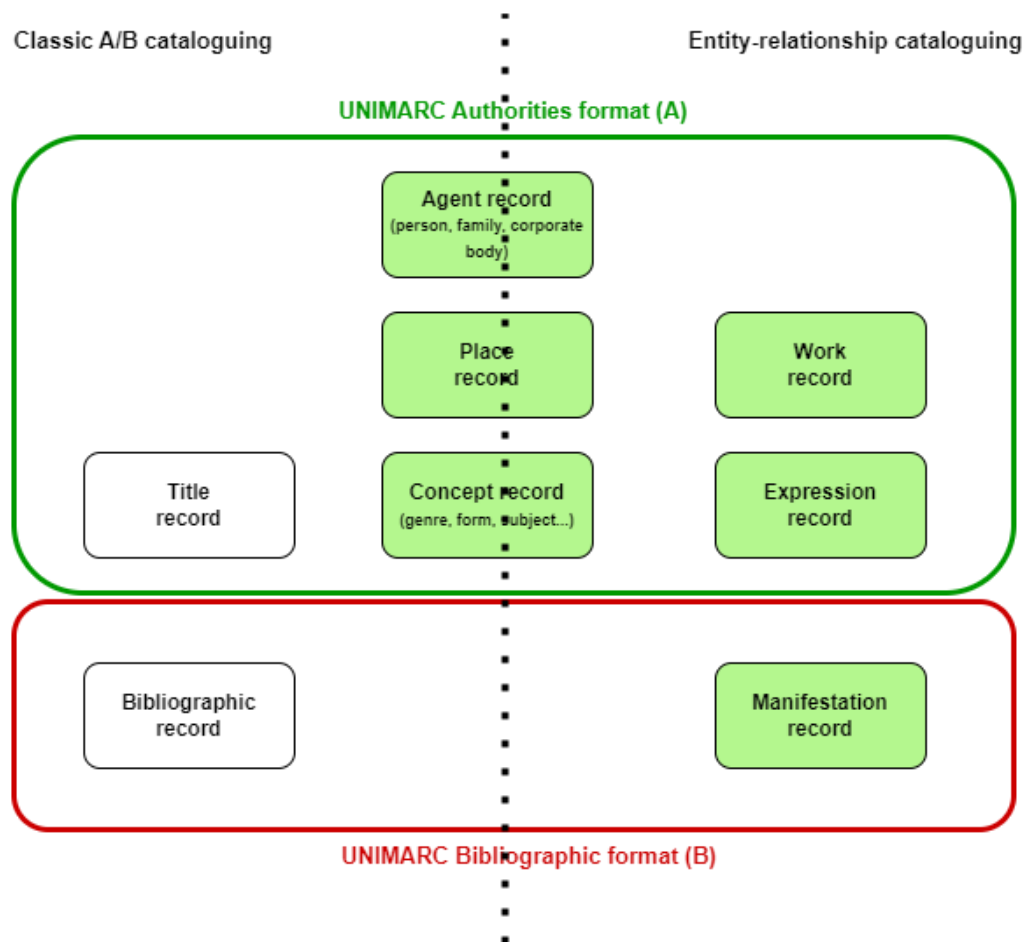
https://zenodo.org/communities/tbsd_documentation

Pending questions

Applicability of UNIMARC fields, subfields etc. to either cataloguing track

Implementation strategies : questions raised in French libraries

=> What future for « classic » UNIMARC ?
What compatibility with LRM and RDA ?



UNIMARC IN 2023-2024

An overview of the Permanent Unimarc Committee's activities

PUC activities 2023-2024 (1)

Free online UNIMARC Manuals

Version	File	Release Date	Notes
1.0.0	PDF	25. 9. 2023	Initial version. Not yet endorsed by the IFLA Professional Committee or Governing Board. Includes 2023 revision and updates. See also: Editing history list . Edited by Gordana Mazić and Branka Badovinac, with Rosa Galvão, Olga Zhlobinskaya and Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan.

Available :

- <https://www.ifla.org/unimarc-updates/unimarc-bibliographic-format-manual-online-ed/>
- <https://www.ifla.org/unimarc-updates/unimarc-authorities-format-manual-online-ed/>

With yearly updates

UNIMARC Namespace

iflastandards.info

IFLA Namespaces

- [The FRBR Vocabularies](#)
- [The ISBD Vocabularies](#)
- [The LRM Vocabularies](#)
- [The UNIMARC Vocabularies](#)
- [MulDiCat](#)

UNIMARC/B published,
UNIMARC/A ready for publication

PUC activities 2023-2024 (2)

2023 updates

- Additional codes for scripts and transliteration schemes
- Full set of fields for numismatic resources (classic UNIMARC)
- Clarifications on fields to use to express relationships between agents, works and expressions

UNIMARC/ISBD-M working group

- Work with the ISBD Manifestation Taskforce (worldwide review in progress before publication)
- Coherence of IFLA standards

UPCOMING AND ONGOING WORK

PUC activities 2024-2025

2024 PUC annual meeting

- Review of 2023 pending proposals : complements for work and expression based on the experimental dataset created by the Transition Bibliographique programme
- New sets of proposals for agent and place entities

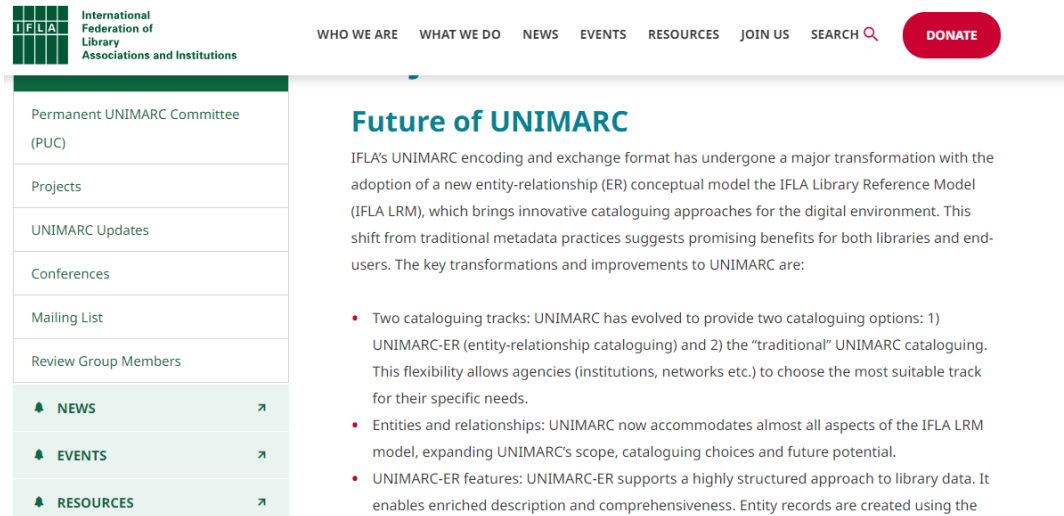
Projects

- Work with the ISBD Manifestation Taskforce
- Publication of UNIMARC/A Namespace
- Future of UNIMARC project


Future of UNIMARC

A new project aiming to better understand the needs of UNIMARC users in the context of LRM implementation and provide tools and documentation

- A [webpage](#) :
- A worldwide [survey](#) launched May 2024
- 6th UNIMARC Users Meeting: Charting the Course: Future-Forward Cataloguing with UNIMARC, 12th November 2024 (Maribor, Slovenia/Online)



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Future of UNIMARC

IFLA's UNIMARC encoding and exchange format has undergone a major transformation with the adoption of a new entity-relationship (ER) conceptual model the IFLA Library Reference Model (IFLA LRM), which brings innovative cataloguing approaches for the digital environment. This shift from traditional metadata practices suggests promising benefits for both libraries and end-users. The key transformations and improvements to UNIMARC are:

- Two cataloguing tracks: UNIMARC has evolved to provide two cataloguing options: 1) UNIMARC-ER (entity-relationship cataloguing) and 2) the "traditional" UNIMARC cataloguing. This flexibility allows agencies (institutions, networks etc.) to choose the most suitable track for their specific needs.
- Entities and relationships: UNIMARC now accommodates almost all aspects of the IFLA LRM model, expanding UNIMARC's scope, cataloguing choices and future potential.
- UNIMARC-ER features: UNIMARC-ER supports a highly structured approach to library data. It enables enriched description and comprehensiveness. Entity records are created using the

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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<https://www.ifla.org/g/unimarc-rg/permanent-unimarc-committee-puc/>