

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: EURIG
Subject: Representing date of works and expressions in RDA: Discussion Paper

Related Documents:

6JSC/EURIG/2 Date of expression—Revision of RDA6.10.1.1and 6.10.1.3

<http://www.rda-jsc.org/docs/6JSC-EURIG-2.pdf>

1 Background

This discussion paper is intended to develop the ideas from 6/JSC/EURIG/2 on the date of expression and to extend the reflection to the date of the work.

The previous proposal was to specify in the scope of the element date of expression (6.10.1.1) that the nature of the date varies according to the type of content of the resource. This part of the proposition, revised by LC in its response to EURIG, was accepted by the JSC during its November 2012 meeting. The new scope is the following:

“6.10.1.1 Scope

Date of expression▼ is the earliest date associated with an expression.

The date of expression may represent the date a text was written, the date of final editing of a moving image work, the date of first broadcast for a television or radio program, the date of notation for a score, the date of the recording of an event, etc. If no specific date can be identified as the date of expression, treat the date of the earliest manifestation embodying the expression as the date of expression.

For additional instructions on date of expression of religious works, see [6.24 RDA](#).”

The second part of the proposal was an optional addition in 6.10.1.3. It consisted of adding a qualifier after a date, according to the type of content of the resource (for example, Date of shooting for a moving image). JSC disapproved the methodology of using a qualifier, unsuitable in a linked data environment.

It was suggested to EURIG to define with British Library subtypes of date of expression. It seemed preferable to us to propose a discussion paper in 2013 and possibly a new proposal in 2014 or 2015.

We now would like to propose changes to RDA 6.4 (date of Work) and 6.10 (date of expression).

1.1 Use cases

1. ASSIST cataloguers

To enable cataloguers to identify and choose one or more dates related to a work or an expression according to the type of content of the resource. Enable them to justify their choice. Enable them, when updating a record, to know what type of date was chosen in the initial cataloguing.

2. ENABLE the construction of access points by machines.

To distinguish between the preferred and additional dates by using element sub-types.

To have separate sub-elements for recording the date and the type of date associated in a same element.

3. FACILITATE accurate collocation and disambiguation of expressions by users and applications.

To prevent different agencies or cataloguers from assigning, in good faith, different dates to the same expression, without specifying the type of the date recorded.

4. ENABLE users to determine whether the date is ascertained or is a “*terminus ante quem*”.

1.2 Support for the use cases in RDA

Use case 1: ASSIST cataloguers

RDA recognizes that the date of expression may vary, according to the type of content of the resource, but gives no explanation as to how to distinguish dates and does not specify what type of date applies to what type of content, nor does it give an order of preference for the various possible dates.

Use case 2: ENABLE the construction of access points by machines.

RDA does not specify the preferred date to be used in constructing the access point identifying the work or the expression.

Use case 3: FACILITATE accurate collocation and disambiguation of expressions by users and applications

Although RDA deems that date of work and date of expression are core elements when needed to differentiate works and expressions, it remains too general.

Some specific types of content call for specific types of date that are more relevant to identify the expression than the date of the earliest known manifestation (e.g., a date of recording for performed music).

RDA allows one, “if no specific date can be identified as the date of expression,” to use the date of the earliest manifestation embodying the expression. But it will amount more

often for cataloguers to retaining the date of the earliest manifestation kept in their establishment.

Use case 4: ENABLE users to determine whether the date is ascertained or is a “*terminus ante quem*”

RDA does not allow one to indicate if the date given is the date of expression strictly speaking, i.e. the date when the expression was realized of the expression, or if it is a “*Terminus ante quem*” for the realization of the expression. In this case, several dates could be given which correspond to different events of the life of the resource known by cataloguers and that may vary from a cataloguer to another.

2 Suggestions for discussion

2.1 Chronological Information for Expression

It is proposed to create a generic element: “**Chronological Information for Expression**” with two element sub-types:

- **Preferred Chronological Information for Expression**
- **Additional Chronological Information for Expression**

“**Preferred Chronological Information for Expression**” would be composed of two sub-elements:

- **Date of Expression**
- **Nature of date**

“**Additional Chronological information for Expression**” would be also composed of two sub-elements:

- “**Additional Date for Expression**”
- “**Nature of date**”

Consequently, we suggest changing RDA 6.10 (Date of Expression) in the following manner:

6.10 ~~Date of expression~~ Chronological information for Expression

Date of expression is a core element when needed to differentiate an expression of a work from another expression of the same work.

6.10.X Preferred Chronological Information for Expression

6.10.X.1 Date of Expression

Date of expression is a core element when needed to differentiate an expression of a work from another expression of the same work.

The date of expression can be the actual date when the expression was realized, if it is known, or a *terminus ante quem* indicating the earliest date prior to which the Expression is assumed to have been realized.

The sub-element “Date of Expression” of the “Preferred Chronological Information for Expression” is used (possibly limiting to the year) to construct the preferred controlled access point for a given Expression.

6.10.X.2 Nature of Date

6.10.Y Additional Chronological Information for Expression

Optional. This element subtype is proposed as possibly useful, but may prove unnecessary in practice.

6.10.Y.1 Additional Date for Expression

6.10.Y.2 Nature of Date

The sub-element “**Nature of date**” which may apply to “Date of Expression” or “Additional Date for Expression” should be filled with values of a referential to be established with different specialist communities.

Examples:

Creator	Arma, Paul, 1904-1987
Preferred Title for Expression	Palette sonore. Notated music
<i>Preferred Chronological Information for Expression</i>	
Date of Expression	1986
Nature of date	Realization of the earliest known version

Creator	Berlioz, Hector, 1803-1869
Preferred Title for Expression	Te Deum, H 118. Notated music
<i>Preferred Chronological Information for Expression</i>	
Date of Expression	1855
Nature of date	Earliest known publication

2.2 Chronological Information for Work

It is proposed to create a generic element: “Chronological information for Work”. To enable the construction of access points to works by machines, it is necessary to distinguish two element sub-types:

- “Preferred Chronological Information for Work”
- “Additional Chronological Information for Work”

“Preferred Chronological Information for Work” would be composed of two sub-elements:

- “Date of Work”
- “Nature of date”

“Additional Chronological Information for Work” would be also composed of two sub-elements:

- “Additional date for Work”
- “Nature of date”

Consequently, we suggest changing RDA 6.4 (Date of Work) in the following manner:

6.4 ~~Date of work~~ Chronological Information for Work

CORE ELEMENT

Date of work is a core element to identify a treaty. Date of work is also a core element when needed to differentiate a work from another work with the same title or from the name of a person, family, or corporate body.

6.4 ~~Date of work~~ Chronological Information for Work

6.4.X Preferred Chronological Information for Work

6.4.X.1 Date of Work

Date of work is a core element to identify a treaty. Date of work is also a core element when needed to differentiate a work from another work with the same title or from the name of a person, family, or corporate body.

The date of work is a *terminus ante quem* indicating the earliest date prior to which the work is assumed to have been created. It generally corresponds to the date of realization of the first expression that can be historically known and well-documented, although no manifestation may be extant.

The sub-element “Date of Work” of the “Preferred Chronological Information for Work” is used (possibly limiting to the year) to construct the preferred controlled access point for a given Work.

6.4.X.2 Nature of date

6.4.Y Additional Chronological Information for Work

6.4.Y.1 Additional Date for Work

An Additional Date for Work may correspond to

- the date of conception of the work, when there is historical evidence that the earliest known expression was completed long after that date;
- the date of shooting (for movies);
- the first public presentation (screening at a festival, earliest cinema release) (for movies);
- the date of the first performance (for works intended for performance).

6.4.Y.2 Nature of date

The sub-element “**Nature of date**” which may apply to “Date of Work” or “Additional Date for Work” should be filled with values of a referential to be established with different specialist communities.

Examples:

A musical work composed in 1986, and based on an original idea documented by the composer as dating back to 1925.

Creator	Arma, Paul, 1904-1987
Preferred Title for Work	Palette sonore
<i>Preferred Chronological Information for Work</i>	
Date of Work	1986
Nature of date	Realization of the earliest known version
<i>Additional Chronological Information for Work</i>	
Additional Date for Work	1925
Nature of date	Date of conception

A musical work composed from October 1848 to August 1849, revised in 1852 and 1855, performed for the first time on 30 April 1855 and published in 1855.

Creator	Berlioz, Hector, 1803-1869
Preferred Title for Work	Te Deum
<i>Preferred Chronological Information for Work</i>	

Date of Work	October 1848-August 1849
Nature of date	Realization of the earliest known version
<i>Additional Chronological information for Work</i>	
Additional Date for Work	1852
Nature of date	Realization of revised expression
Additional Date for Work	1855
Nature of date	Realization of revised expression
Additional Date for Work	30 April 1855
Nature of date	First public performance
Additional Date for Work	1855
Nature of date	Earliest known publication

2.3 Questions:

1. Do you agree with this approach?
2. Do you agree with the creation of these new elements of the work and the expression?
3. If so, where should the sub-element “nature of date” go in RDA? There appear to be 2 options:
 - a. Repeated in each element sub-type
 - b. Described once, as is common to the two element sub-types for both Work and Expression.
4. Are there other sub-elements that should be included?
5. Are there cases where more than one type of date could be associated with one expression? Should the sub-type “Additional Chronological Information for Expression” be kept, as it may be found redundant with information given at the Work level?
6. Should one date be recorded or should all dates be recorded? At the Work level? at the Expression level?
7. Is an explicit order of preference required for assigning dates?
8. What additional instructions are required?

For the controlled vocabulary associated with “Nature of date”, to be established with different specialist communities,

1. Is the arrangement by content type necessary?
2. Is the list of date types proposed in 6JSC/EURIG/2 sufficient?

As a reminder: Referential proposed in 6JSC/EURIG 2 for the Date of Expression:

Text

- Date of writing
- Copyright date
- Date of copy of defense (for a thesis)
- Date of first public performance (for a play)
- Date of publication of the earliest manifestation
- Date of printing of item belonging to the first print run of the first edition

Moving image

- Date of post-production (resulting in final editing)
- Copyright date
- Date of shooting
- Date of first screening
- Date of earliest cinema release
- Date of first broadcasting
- Date of publication of the earliest manifestation

Notated music, notated movement

- Date of notation
- Date of first public performance
- Date of publication of the earliest manifestation
- Date of printing of item belonging to the first print run of the first edition

Sound recording (either performed music or sounds or spoken word)

- Phonogram date
- Date of recording
- Date of first broadcasting
- Date of publication of the earliest manifestation