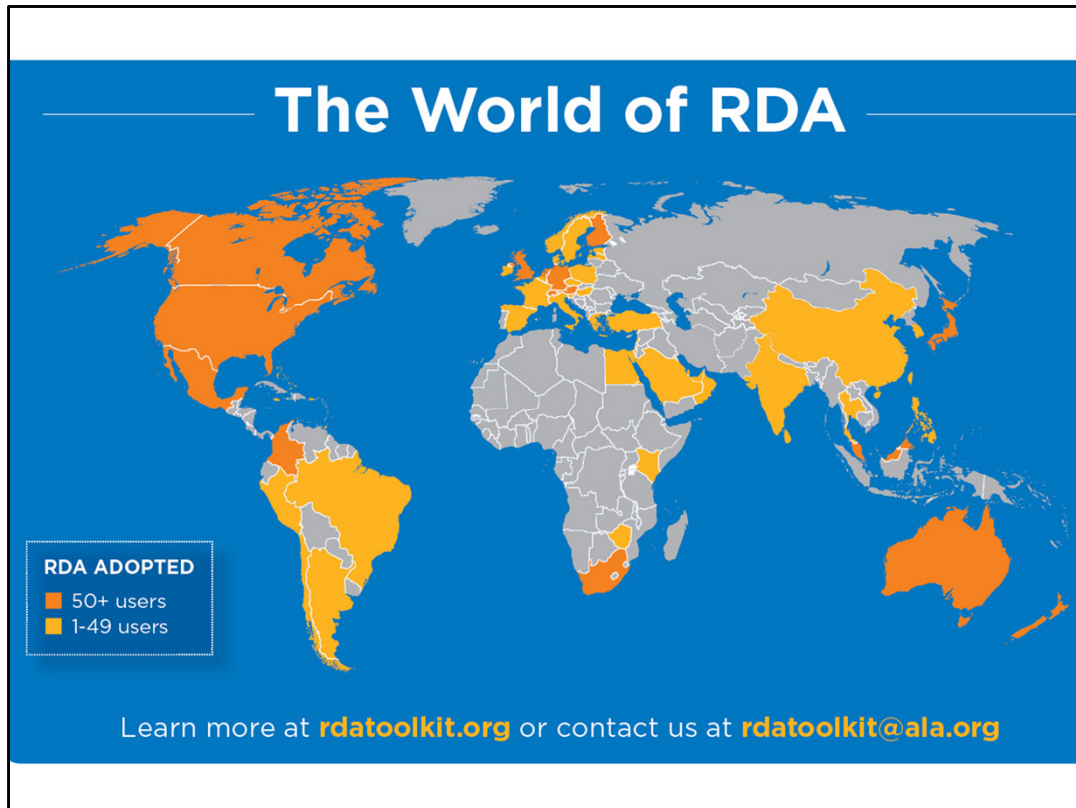# RDA and internationalization
RDA in Europe

Ahava Cohen

National Library of Israel

Chair, EURIG Executive Committee

Graphic courtesy of ALA Publishing

Most of the cataloging world is not Anglo-American, yet for decades we've had two main choices: use Anglo-American cataloging rules or go to the bother and expense of creating national codes – which would then not fully be interoperable with other countries' codes.

0.11 Internationalization

0.11.1 General

RDA is designed for use in an international context.

RDA includes the following guidelines to support use in an international context:

language and script (see **0.11.2** RDA)

numerals (see **0.11.3** RDA)

dates (see **0.11.4** RDA)

units of measurement (see **0.11.5** RDA).

Internationalization

RDA is designed for an international audience, with the expectation that cataloguing agents will make application decisions when desirable. These decisions may be formally recorded in the **RDA Toolkit** as policy statements, or as separate documents such as an *application profile* issued by an agent. Given the flexibility of the guidance and recording methods, the metadata provided by different agents will not necessarily be identical, but as well-formed data it will be understood by any agent when shared. The emphasis is on data harmonization rather than strict compatibility.

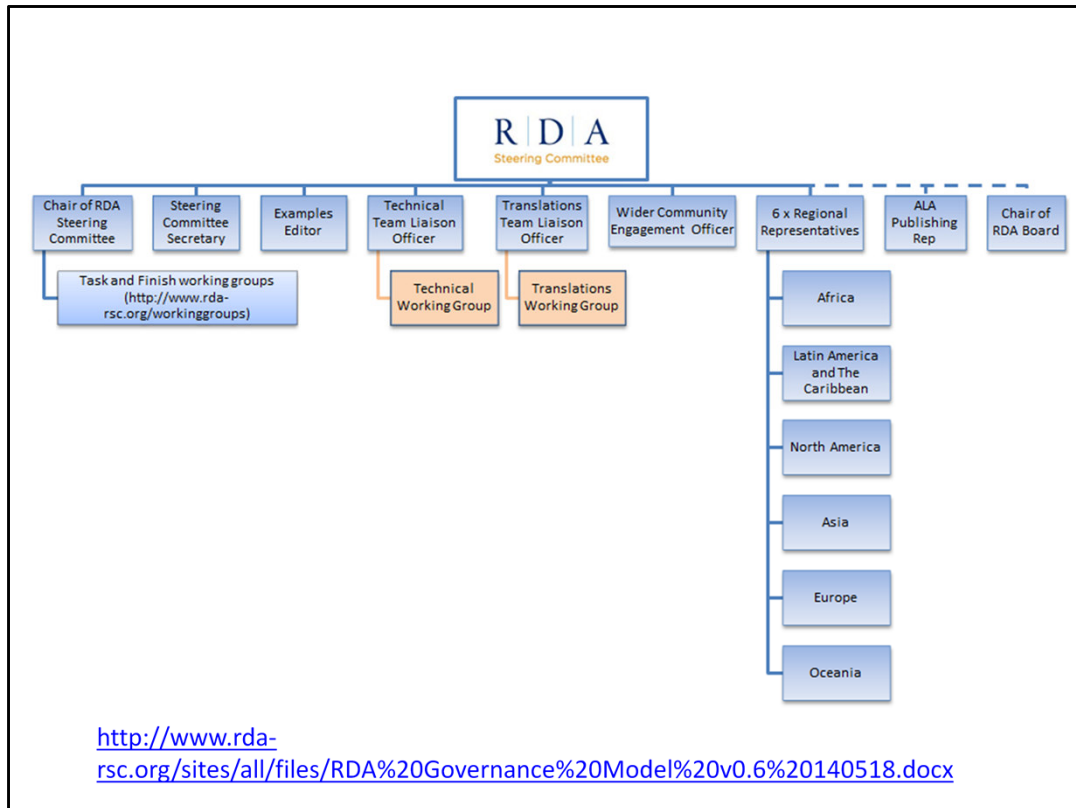For general guidance on application profiles, see **Application profiles**.

In creating RDA the JSC was cognizant of the problem and, seeking to increase uptake, always had the international community in mind.

At first it could be thought that the internationalization was Anglo-Americans talking at the world (after all, they also need internationalization: 61% of records in WorldCat are non-English [https://www.oclc.org/en/worldcat/inside-worldcat.html]). In 3R it is more obvious – the non-Anglo-American community is expected to take an active part in using and shaping RDA and its practical application in the world of cataloging.
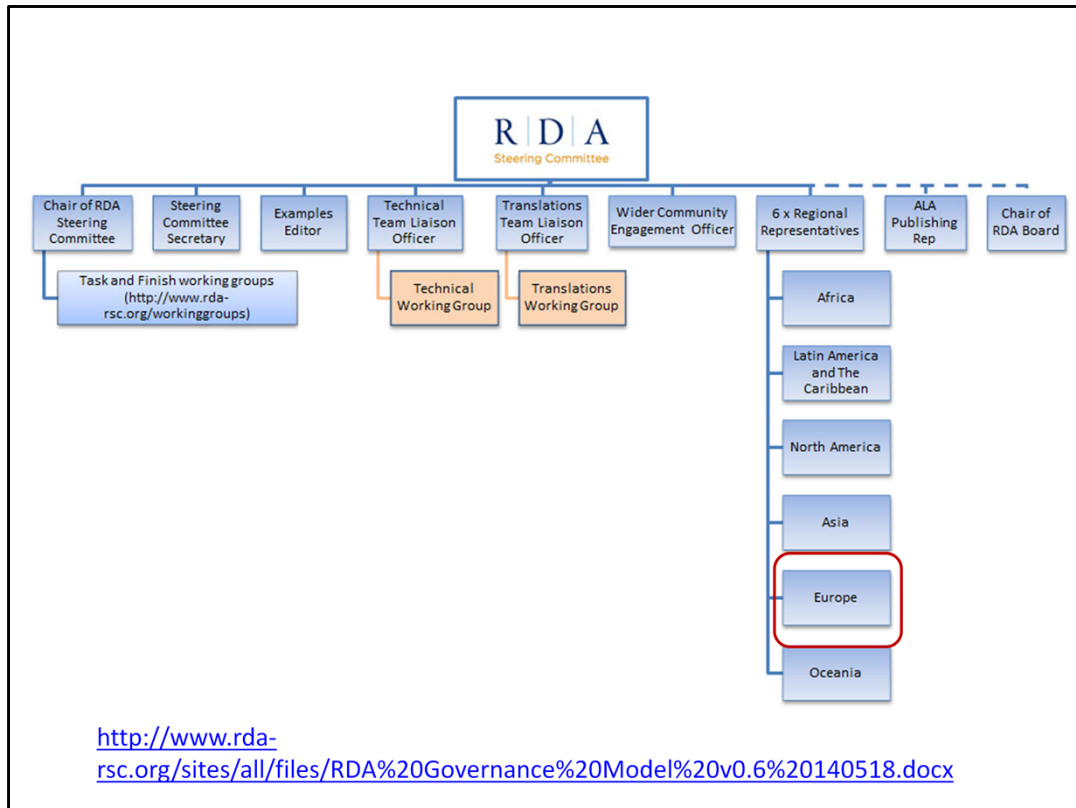
RDA Board
Strategic priorities 2015-2020

- Make RDA an internationally recognised standard
- Increase the adoption of RDA internationally
- Develop a sustainable business model
- Develop a relevant governance structure

http://www.rda-rsc.org/rdaboard

How does RDA do this? Through its primary decision making body, the RDA Steering Committee. In 2018 the RDA Board, ALA and the RSC announced the new governance model, which removed the institutional representatives of the Anglo-American world and replaced them with regional representation from all UN regions.

RDA
Steering Committee

| Chair of RDA Steering Committee | Steering Committee Secretary | Examples Editor | Technical Team Liaison Officer | Translations Team Liaison Officer | Wider Community Engagement Officer | 6 x Regional Representatives | ALA Publishing Rep | Chair of RDA Board |

Task and Finish working groups (http://www.rda-rsc.org/workinggroups)

Technical Working Group

Translations Working Group

Africa

Latin America and The Caribbean

North America

Asia

Europe

Oceania

http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/RDA%20Governance%20Model%20v0.6%2020140518.docx

The first region to send a representative to the RSC was Europe; the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

EURIG launched September 2011

EURIG itself is nearly as old as RDA. RDA was published in the RDA Toolkit in June 2010 and the first EURIG seminar was held in Copenhagen in August of that year. In September of 2011 EURIG was officially launched and by the first annual meeting in Frankfurt in December of that year, there were 26 members from 16 countries.

- promote the common professional interests of all users and potential users of RDA in Europe
- provide a forum in which current and prospective European users of RDA can participate
- encourage and promote cooperation, communication, and the exchange of experience among current and prospective users to facilitate implementation of RDA in Europe
- disseminate information and coordinate development of RDA according to the bibliographic needs of European libraries and users by working closely with the RDA Steering Committee (RSC)
- encourage and promote cooperation in the translation of RDA into European languages by the exchange of experience

http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/EURIG_Press_Release_2.pdf, cited in Cohen, A. & Danskin, A. (2017). Building an RDA Region. American Libraries

The expressed goals of EURIG focus heavily on cooperation and on inclusion – representatives from institutions which have not yet implemented RDA are invited to join, influence, and even hold office.

Map courtesy of Renate Behrens, DNB, Europe region representative to RSC

EURIG was founded in 2011 with 26 inaugural members from 16 countries. In 2019 we have 45 members from 27 countries
3 main parts: Annual Meeting
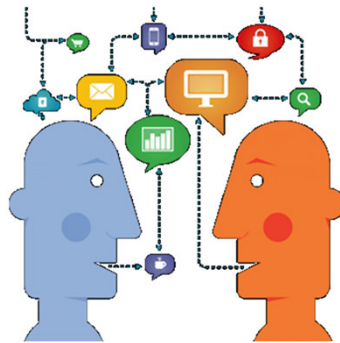   ExCo
        EdCo

Florence 2017:
Copenhagen 2018: Photographer: Poul Bergström Hansen, DBC
Budapest 2019: Photographer: Blanka Nagy, National Széchényi Library

Absolute democracy – majority votes with no consideration for who has implemented and who has not.

Channels of communication

- Europe Region Representative to RSC: Renate Behrens
- Europe National Institution Representative to RDA Board: Ulrike Junger
- Working Groups
- Editorial Committee reviews

Editorial Committee reviews – requested by RSc and volunteered by EdCo

Editorial Committee

- discuss issues referred by the executive committee and propose recommendations for RSC
- prepare RDA proposals and discussion papers with EURIG members' recommendations
- respond to RDA proposals and discussion papers with EURIG members' comments
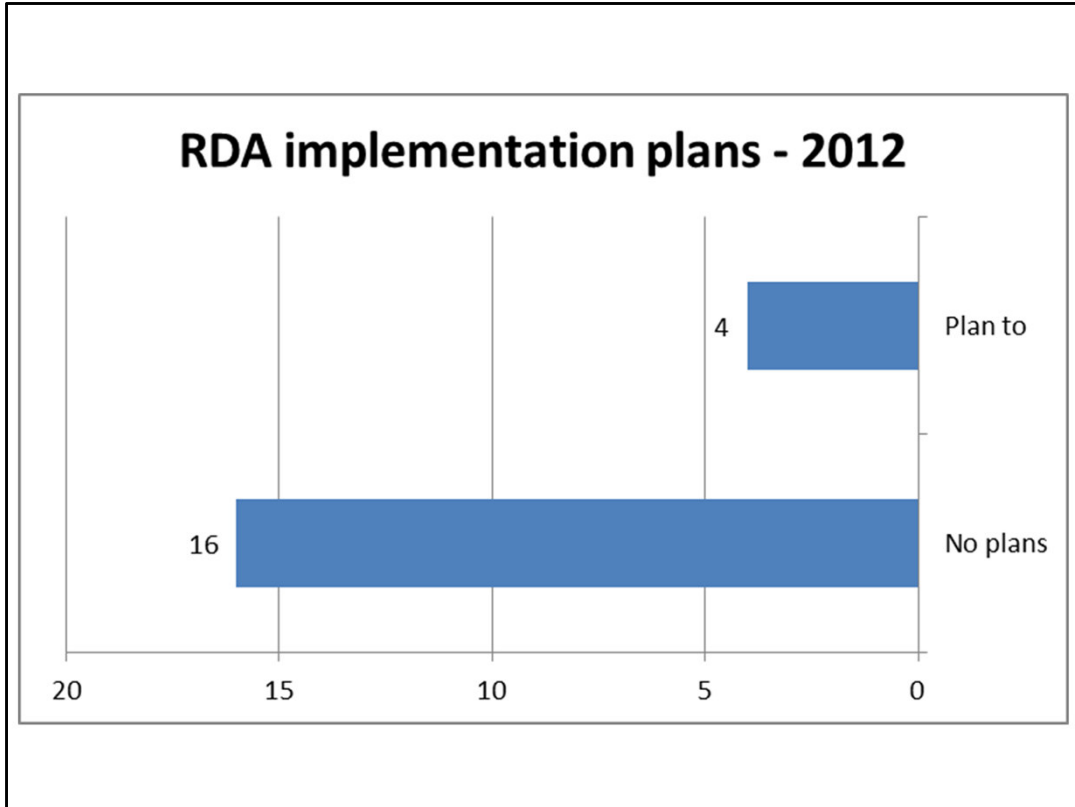
Cohen & Danskin

European RDA Interest Group (EURIG) Documents

○ 6JSC/EURIG/4 - Musical arrangements - Revision of RDA 6.18.1.4 and 6.28.3.2.1
○ 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
○ 6JSC/EURIG/2 - Date of expression - Revision of RDA 6.10.1.1 and 6.10.1.3
○ 6JSC/EURIG/1 - Addition of examples in RDA 6.12.1.3 and 6.27.3
○ 6JSC/EURIG/Discussion/5 - Representing language of expressions in RDA: Discussion Paper
○ 6JSC/EURIG/Discussion/4 - Representing date of works and expressions in RDA: Discussion Paper
○ 6JSC/EURIG/Discussion/3 - Compilations of Works: Discussion paper
○ 6JSC/EURIG/Discussion/2 - Illustrative content and other augmentations: Discussion Paper
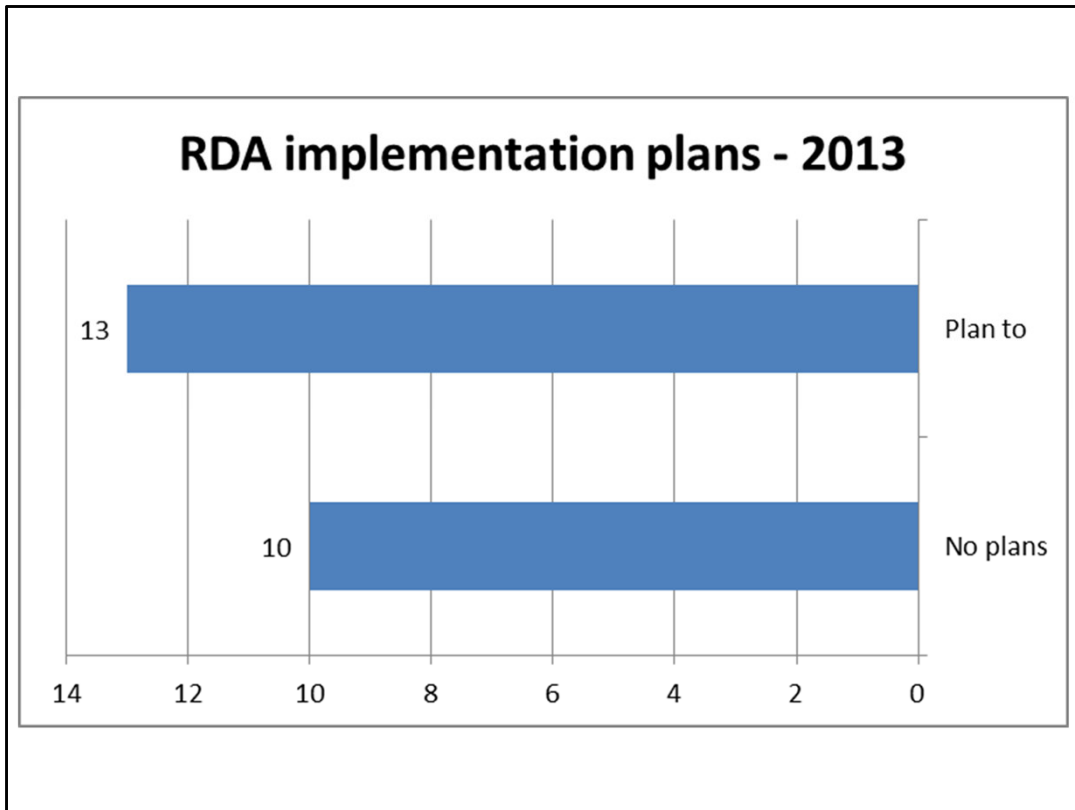○ 6JSC/EURIG/Discussion/1 - Musical arrangements: discussion paper

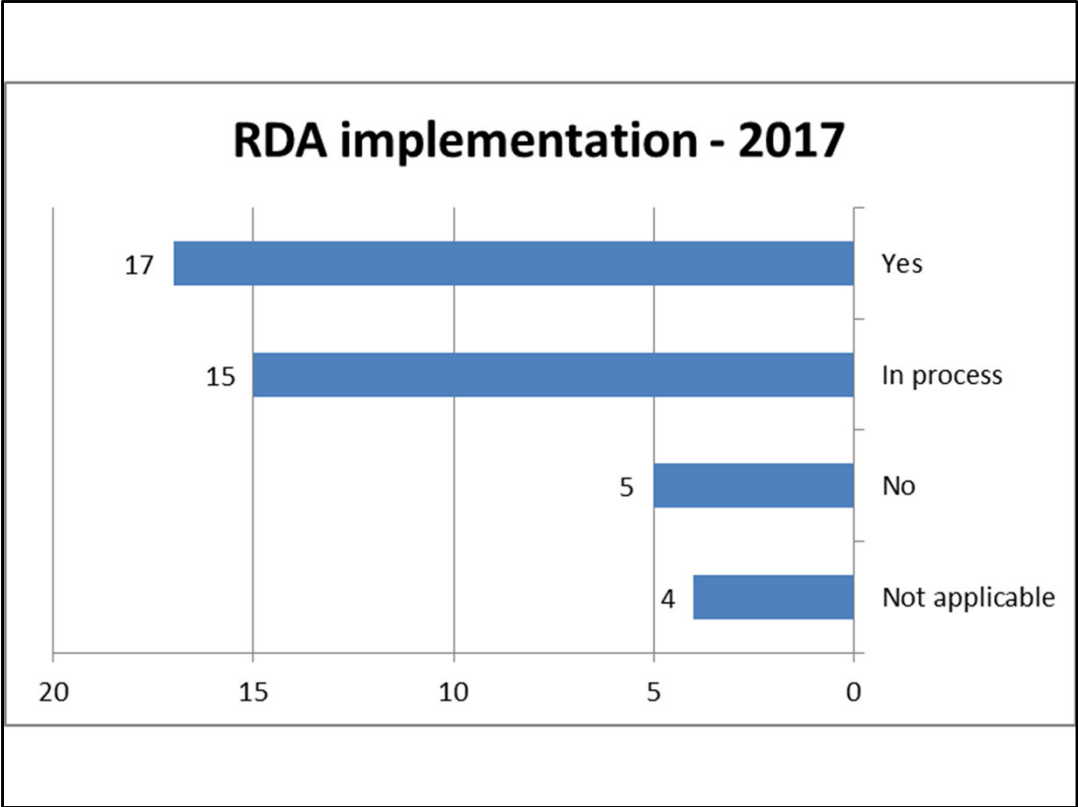Currently reviewing Applications profiles

13

9 full translations, 6 originating in Europe
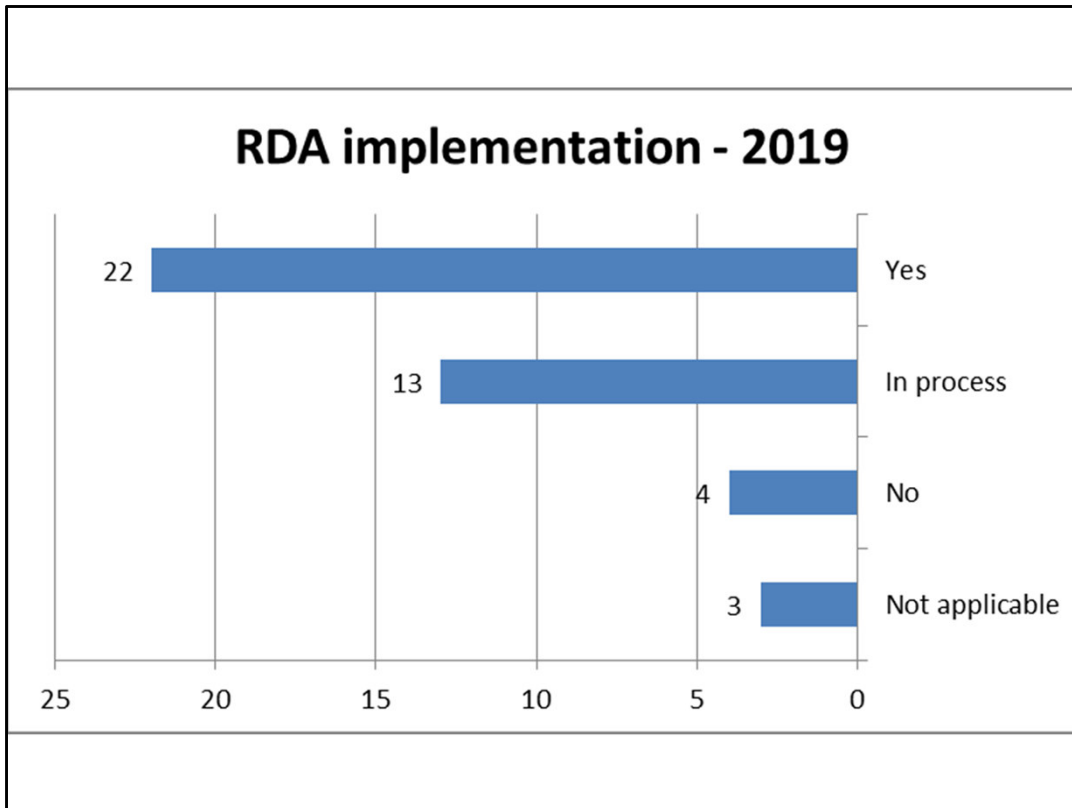6 partial translations, all European

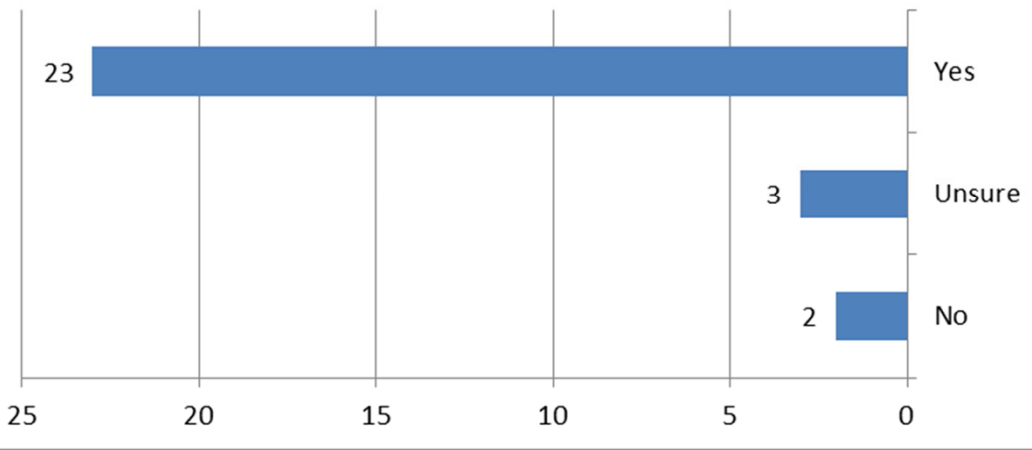http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/EURIG_Survey_2012_v1_Final.pdf

http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/EURIG_Survey-2013_v1_0.pdf

RDA implementation - 2017

18

3R implementation plans - 2019

	Count
Yes	23
Unsure	3
No	2

interest, not unchallenged support

Particularly now, in the age of 3R, we have sent several letters to the RSC about the tight timelines and have communicated our concerns about 3R being a data dictionary when for day-to-day work we need a cataloging standard.

"The unanimous view of all members of EURIG was that it would be difficult to plan the local, national and language-based 3R projects in the current situation. This has been confirmed by the beta-version released, where both text parts and examples are missing. In the meantime, between the release of the beta-version of the RDA Toolkit and the official end of the 3R project changes to the text are possible. This has implications for all our planning, for translations as well as for the adaption of policy statements and application profiles." - http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/EURIG%20statement%20Betaversion_logo.docx

We also have been pushing back against the tight deadlines which had been standard practice in RSC/ Europeans have a different culture – we go on holidays. We have different languages and often we have to translate the RSC's English to our own languages to get expert comments and then translate those comments back to English for the RSC.

Plans for coming year

- Application profiles
- Extend EURIG membership to additional countries
- Nominate EURIG experts to new Working Groups
- Nominate Europe National Institution Representative
- Translations
- Policy statements
- EURIG 2020

Join us

Who may join?

- Any European national bibliographic agency
- Other European institutions and organisations with an interest in the use and implementation of cataloguing codes

Membership application available at

http://www.rda-rsc.org/europe

Want to know more?

EURIG website - http://www.rda-rsc.org/europe

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