

## RDA in Iceland

### Eurig Meeting in Riga, May 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> 2016

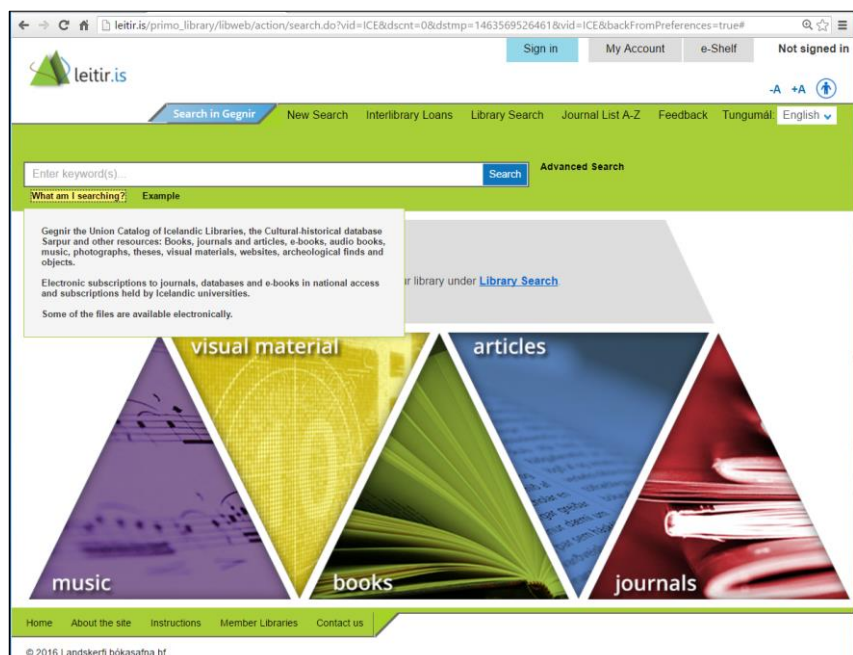


I'm pleased to tell you that the formal RDA implementation day in Iceland was May 20<sup>th</sup> 2016. Before I tell you why we changed to RDA I have to tell you a little bit about the library environment in Iceland.

The population of Iceland is around 330.000 – 1/3 of a million. I think the population of Latvia is around 2 million, which makes it small as well, but it is almost 6 times larger than Iceland. We obviously don't have many people to do the job. Nobody was working full time on the implementation. Still – I have to say, we are very satisfied with the process and the outcome so far.

The fact that we have one library catalogue – a common library system – for the whole country may have helped us. Over 300 libraries, public, school and university libraries alike, share this library system, which is Aleph from ExLibris.

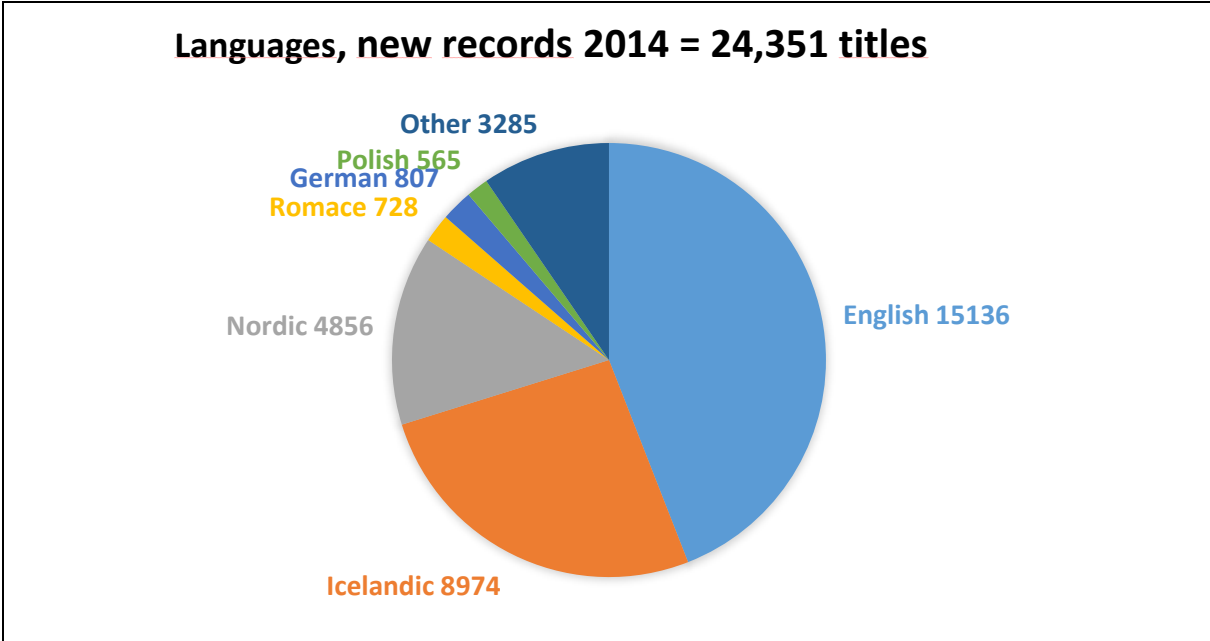
The search interface is Primo – one interface for everything, including electronic databases, but the bibliographic database can be searched separately (the blue tab). Quality control has always been a big issue in the consortia. Only qualified librarians can have a



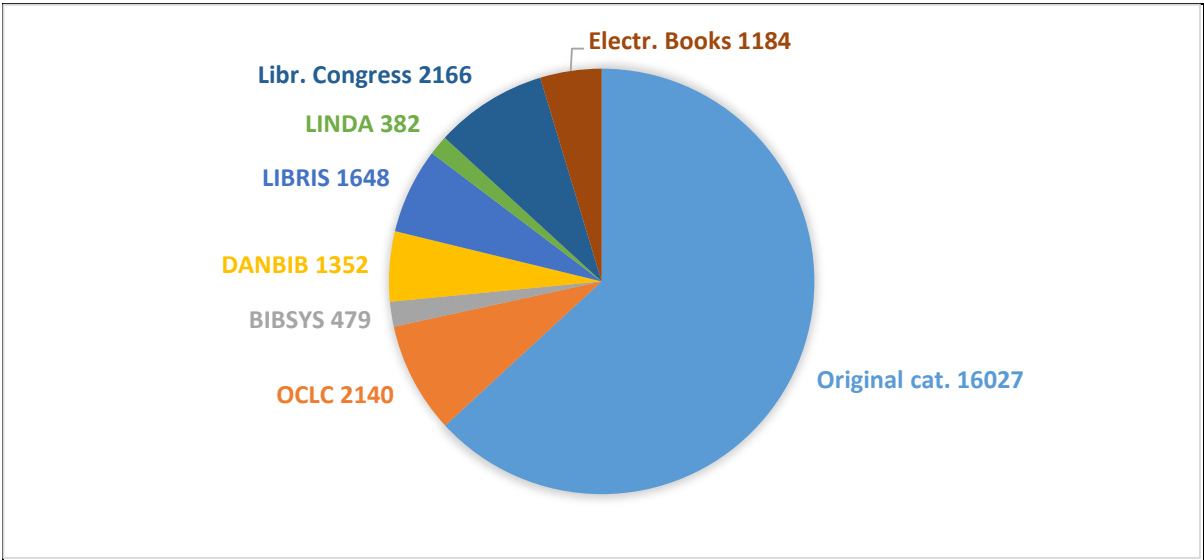
licence to catalog after attending a course – it is mainly instruction on how to use the cataloging module in Aleph and on the policies governing cataloguing in Gegnir. We expect basic cataloguing knowledge of librarians attending.

**So Why RDA?**

You can see the answer in the next two pictures.



A little over 1/3 of all new records are in Icelandic, English almost half. We import a lot of records or copy catalog – 9.351 in 2014.



We need to shape our cataloguing policies in compliance with the libraries' we are copying from or else we will be making ever more complex fix routines for our imported records.

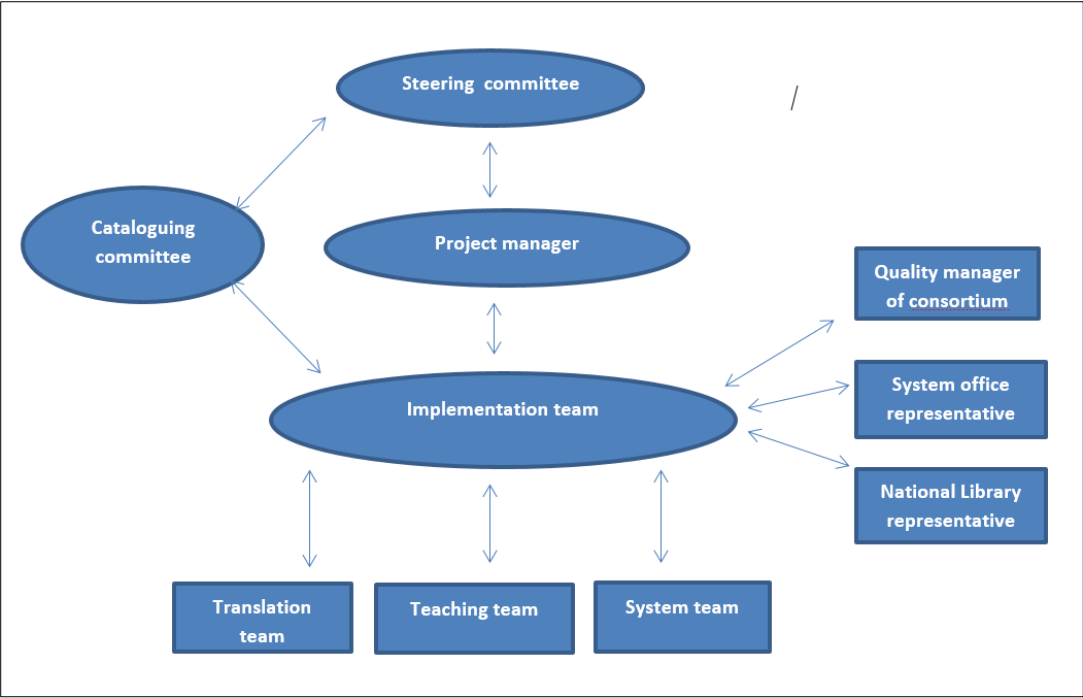
## Preliminary steps were taken

We started planning for RDA some years ago and in April 2014 a formal schedule was ready.

Verkþættir	2014												2015												2016											
	Apr	Mai	Júní	Júlí	Ág	Sept	Okt	Nóv	Des	Jan	Febr	Mar	April	Mai	Júní	Júlí	Ág	Sept	Okt	Nóv	Des	Jan	Febr	Mar	April	Mai	Júní	Júlí	Ág	Sept	Okt	Nóv	Des			
Skráningaráð að störfum																																				
Þýðingarnefnd að störfum																																				
Verkefnisstjóri að störfum																																				
Innleiðingarteymi að störfum																																				
Kennarateymi að störfum																																				
Erlend sérfræðiráðgjöf																																				
Verkþættir																																				
RDA færslur afritaðar og aðlagðar																																				
RDA leiðbeiningar birtar í Handbók skrásetjara																																				
Drög að innleiðingaráætlun																																				
Upplýsingum dreift á Landsfundi																																				
Fræðslufundur skrásetjara																																				
Unnið í prófunarumhverfi Gagnis																																				
Kennsluáætlun																																				
Raunumhverfi Gagnis aðlagð																																				
Námsefnisgerð																																				
RDA handbók																																				
Samið um landsaðgang RDA toolkit																																				
RDA toolkit landsaðgangur																																				
Námskeið skrásetjara																																				
Frumskráning RDA																																				
Eftirvinnsla, eftirfylgni og bæðaeftirlit																																				

In January 2015 a project manager was hired half-time for 18 months – she was in fact the only person who was formally assigned to the implementation. Everyone else was doing it on the side – adding it to their daily tasks.

Working teams were established – a teaching team, implementation team, teams for different formats, translation team and a steering committee to advice on major policy issues.



The teams buried themselves in the toolkit and attended webinars and online courses, mainly from American Library Association (ALA). But most importantly we were lucky enough to get in touch with Alan Danskin. Actually it was at the Eurig meeting in Stockholm 2013 that the contact was made.

A team of Icelanders visited the British Library at Boston Spa in March 2015 to learn about the implementation process and the changes they made to their library system, which is Aleph like ours.



You can see Verena Schaffner there as well – she’s not Icelandic.

Alan Danskin also recommended a visit to the Netherlands – to the University Library in Amsterdam which had recently implemented RDA. It proved to be very fruitful.



Alan came to Iceland in May 2015. He was a keynote speaker at the cataloguers spring-meeting and also held courses for people involved in the implementation process.

## Decisions on translation were taken

From the beginning it has been clear that it would be impossible to translate the complete RDA rules into Icelandic. The Introduction – where many of the FRBR concepts appear – has been translated into Icelandic. Selected Content – media – carrier terms and Relationship designators were also translated.

performer	prf	flytjandi
photographer	pht	ljósmyndari
producer	pro	framleiðandi
publisher	pbl	útgefandi
puppeteer	ppt	leikbrúðustjórnandi
recording artist	rcd	upptaka
screenwriter	aus	handritshöfundur
singer	sng	söngvari
storyteller	stl	sögumaður
translator	trl	þýðandi
<i>(writer of afterword)</i>		höfundur viðprents
<i>(writer of foreword)</i>		höfundur viðprents
<i>(writer of introduction)</i>	win	höfundur viðprents
<i>(writer of postface)</i>		höfundur viðprents
<i>(writer of preface)</i>	wpr	höfundur viðprents

Actually choosing the terms to translate was the most time-consuming task. It is impossible to distinguish between for example Writer of foreword, Writer of preface and Writer of Introduction in Icelandic. We have a concept that covers introduction, foreword/preface and afterword/postface (viðprent, literally co-print by a different author). Also, the content of foreword and afterword is usually similar so it seems that English uses many different terms for the same concept. In our mind, this example illustrates the difficulties of translating. I think we ended up with only 44 relator terms – the most important ones. We will continue translating according to need.



## **The implementation process was smooth**

160 cataloguers from different library types renewed their cataloging permit by attending a two half-days RDA course held February to April this year.



Earlier this month the teams also held courses on music and score cataloguing, as well as a separate course for cataloguing of derived records or analytical records such as journal articles, book chapters and single music recordings according to RDA. We have a lot of analytical records in our database. That means that we don't have to use so many access points for authors and titles in the "mother" record.

## We don't do everything by the book

We are not yet making separate records for digitized material. We have a link in the print record. Clicking on directly on the link in the record is easier for patrons in the library system as it is. Digital born material, such as electronic books, is cataloged separately.

LDR	nam 22 i 4500
008	160113s2016 ic ad e 001 0 eng c
020	a 9789935905284  q pdf
040	a LBTHL  e rda
08204	a 338.477  2 ÍB útg.
1004	a Ágúst  1 Einarsson  d 1952  e höfundur
24510	a Cultural economics /  c Ágúst Einarsson.
264 1	a [Bifröst] :  b Bifröst University,  c 2016.
300	a 178 bls. :  b myndir, gröf, töflur.
336	a texti  b txt
337	a rafrænt  b c
338	a rafrænt gagn  b cr
504	a Index of names: bls. 163-164
7102	a Háskólinn á Bifröst  e útgefandi
85640	u <a href="http://www.bifrost.is/files/rannsoknir-og-utgafa/rafbaekur/cultural-economics_rafbok.pdf">http://www.bifrost.is/files/rannsoknir-og-utgafa/rafbaekur/cultural-economics_rafbok.pdf</a>  4 .  z Heildartexti  0 RAFRAENT_OPID

Also, we tend to use titles as main access points for music other than classical, and for visual material, a practice already well established in our catalogue.

## In the future

It will be necessary to consider training for other groups, for example, staff working in acquisitions, reference and circulation. It is also necessary to monitor and develop how the "system" works with the bibliographic records, how they appear to the end user with FRBR in mind. Additionally it is necessary to monitor the changes in the RDA Toolkit. We intend to make global changes as much as we can through system processes.



## To summarize

The implementation process, which a great many people contributed to, has been intense but the results have been successful. Between 20 and 30 people participated in teams and working groups. The process was one of cooperation and solidarity among cataloguers all over Iceland. Also, the implementation of RDA is an important opportunity for continuing education for existing cataloguers. People seem to be more enthusiastic about their work. We hope that the implementation of RDA is a step towards a more user-friendly approach to the dissemination of information.



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