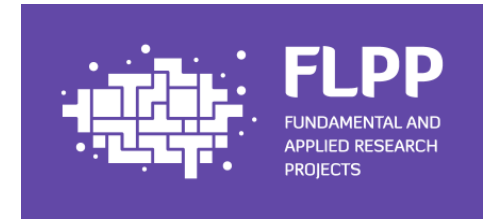


NATIONAL  
LIBRARY  
OF LATVIA



# Implementation of the standard “Resource Description and Access (RDA)” in Latvian libraries and translation of RDA values and terms

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Interoperability of Data of Cultural Heritage Institutions in the Digital Space:  
Terminological Aspect

National Library of Latvia, Riga, 8 October 2021

# Library terminology work – last decades

- 2000 – Latvian Academy of Sciences Terminology Commission subcommittee on Library Science, Bibliography, Book Science and Information Science Terminology was established
- 2011 – Terminology Commission was expanded by establishing a Subcommittee on Information and Documentation Terminology, also involving archival specialists

## **Tasks for the Information and Documentation Terminology Subcommittee:**

- evaluation of terms
- approval of data terms
- coordination of terminology work
- ensuring availability of terms

# 2018 - the Latvian National terminology portal <https://termini.gov.lv/>

https://termini.gov.lv/kolekcijas

Termini.gov.lv

[Kolekcijas](#)

[Terminrade](#)

[Komisija](#)



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## Terminu kolekcijas

Terminoloģijas portālā esošo terminu iedalījums kolekcijās.

Kolekciju skaits: 1

bibliotēku un arhīvu terminu kolekcija

Meklēt

LV

RU

EN

FR

DE

LA

ES

Publiska kolekcija

### Bibliotēku un arhīvu terminu kolekcija

Bibliotēku un arhīvu terminu kolekcijā iekļauti Latvijas Zinātņu akadēmijas Terminoloģijas komisijas (LZA TK) Informācijas un dokumentācijas terminoloģijas apakškomisijas apstiprinātie termini. Termini pieejami arī LNB "Bibliotēku, arhīvu un muzeju terminu datubāzē"  
<http://termini.lnb.lv>

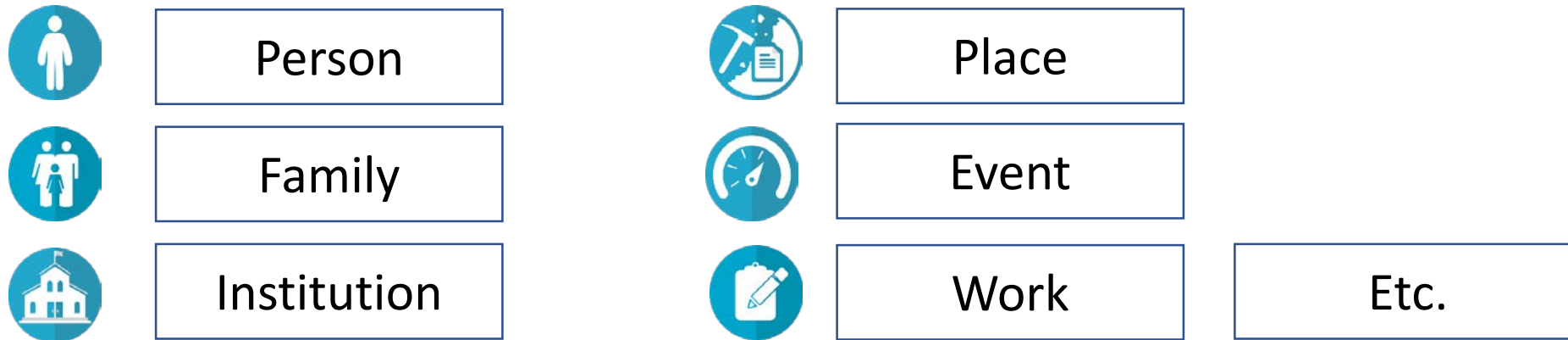
Šķirķļu skaits: 2242

LV 2242 EN 2222 DE 1

RU 196

# RDA – new data standard – new philosophy and influence

- The real essence of RDA - Entities, their attributes and relationships



- The challenge – hundreds of new terms are coming into Latvian

# Implementation of RDA and translation of the terms

RDA Glossary (version 2008)

**2010**



Extension of RDA

**2012/2013**



RDA implementation team

**2013**



RDA + IFLA Library Reference Model entities

**2016**



New entities, relationships

**2018**



Updated version of RDA Glossary

**2020**



# Translation of RDA Reference – positive aspects

- + Worldwide spread of RDA standard
- + Standardization of national library data and their integration into local and international data projects
- + Common understanding of the description of cultural heritage resources
- + Revision of existing library sector terms
- + Adding new and necessary terms, not only library sector terms
- + Terms for digital world
- + Entity Relationship Hierarchy – globally new thinking

# Translation of RDA Reference – challenges

- Linguistically based on English
- Use of gender in Latvian – decision to use male gender also for female
  - ✓ *author – autors/autore*
- Rich synonymy in English
  - ✓ *publishing, releasing, issuing – izdošana, publicēšana*
- Complicated explanations of terms and relationships
- To express relationships in short phrases in Latvian requires the use of grammatical declinations or use of compound sentences
  - ✓ *adapted as novel work – adaptēts kā darbs: romāns*

# Creation of new terms

- *Entity* – *entīte*, *entītiņa* (in library science) and *entitāte* (IT) in documents in different sectors.
- very specific terms whose translation requires research and in-depth investigation:
  - ✓ *unmediated* – *tiešuztveres vide*
- New terms related to digital resources. Audio/video resources terms, such as:
  - ✓ *master* – *pirmatnis*
- New terms for Work entity relationships, such as:
  - ✓ *prequel* – *pirmsstāsts*
  - ✓ *sequel* – *pēcstāsts*
  - ✓ *remake* – *jauna versija*
- **Under the influence of the IFLA LRM**, three completely new entities have been added to the RDA standard:
  - ✓ *Agent Group later* – *Group*
  - ✓ *Nomen and Timespan*



# Compatibility of RDA Standard terminology with the data standards of other Latvian cultural heritage institutions

- 2020 – research project “Latvian Memory Institution Data in the Digital Space: Connecting Cultural Heritage”
- Main task – to study and describe the semantic interoperability of Latvian cultural heritage institutions (libraries, archives and museums) in the field of data
- The authority data created by the NLL (RDA) and the National Archives of Latvia – the basis for the unified Reference data system of Latvian cultural heritage institutions.

# Library, Archive, Museum common entities

Entity type	Library (IFLA LRM/RDA)	Archive (Ric – Records in context)	Museums (CIDOC CRM)
Agent/Person	Person	Person	Person
Agent/Institution	Collective Agent	Corporate Body	Group
Agent/Family	Collective Agent	Family	Group
Agent/Group	Collective Agent	Group	Group
Place	Place	Place	Place
Time Span	Time-span	Date	Time-Span
Event	Subclass of Res	Event	Event

# Conclusions

- Translating the RDA Reference into Latvian has been a complex and important process
- Translation requires a high degree of semantic accuracy
- The translators' working group must have skills and knowledge in cataloguing resources for all types and formats of content, as well as being good command in English and Latvian
- Before starting translation work, common phrases or general terms must be separated out, creating a list of words and phrases
- Attention must be paid to terms that do not have exact equivalents in Latvian. Translation requires the preservation of logic and semantic relationships

# Thank You for Your attention!

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