

**TO:** Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR

**FROM:** Alan Danskin, British Library representative to JSC

**SUBJECT:** **Numbering for serials: alternative instructions**

### **General comment**

Authoritative designation of the first and last issue of a serial (or volume of a multipart) is important for accurate identification of the resource (by people and automated processes). JSC should rather consider defining specific elements for "First issue published" and "Last issue published". A note would still be required when the description is based on an issue other than the first (or last). The BL takes the view that providing a note in those instances (the vast majority) for which the description is based on the first issue, would be inefficient.

LC's justification is based on a display issue which is outside the scope of RDA. It seems that the problem of confusion between designation and holdings could be addressed by more meaningful labelling of the designation element in local systems.

BL does not support the proposal.