

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Judith A. Kuhagen, JSC Secretary
Subject: Revision of RDA 11.2.2: Heads of State and Heads of Government

The text and examples below reflect changes to RDA content from 6JSC/ALA/2/rev and decisions made by the JSC during subsequent discussions via email and a conference call.

11.2.2.21.1 Heads of State, Heads of Government, Etc.

Record the title of a sovereign, president, other head of state, governor, head of government, or chief executive acting in an official capacity (see 6.31.1) as a subdivision of the authorized access point representing the jurisdiction. Record the title in the language preferred by the agency creating the data (unless there is no equivalent term in that language).

EXAMPLE

Indonesia. President
not Indonesia. Presiden
Chiapas (Mexico). Governor
not Chiapas (Mexico). Gobernador
Swaziland. Prime Minister
Managua (Nicaragua). Mayor
not Managua (Nicaragua). Alcaldía
King County (Wash.). Executive
Japan. Prime Minister
not Japan. Naikaku Sōri Daijin
Thailand. Prime Minister
not Thailand. Nāyok Ratthamontrī

If the official being identified is a specific incumbent of the office, add, in parentheses, the inclusive years of the reign or incumbency and the name of the person in a brief form and in the language of the preferred name for that person. Separate the years of the reign or incumbency from the name of the person using a space, colon, space.

EXAMPLE

Portugal. President (1996–2006 : Sampaio)
New Jersey. Governor (2002–2004 : McGreevey)
Iran. Shah (1941–1979 : Mohammed Reza Pahlavi)

Brunei. Sultan (1967– : Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah)

Papal States. Sovereign (1800–1823 : Pius VII)

British Columbia. Premier (2000–2001 : Dosanjh)

Central African Republic. Prime Minister (2001–2003 : Ziguèle)

Germany. Chancellor (1990–1998 : Kohl)

Germany. Chancellor (2005– : Merkel)

Israel. Prime Minister (1999–2001 : Barak)

New Zealand. Prime Minister (2008– : Key)

Seattle (Wash.). Mayor (1978–1990 : Royer)

If the title varies with the gender of the incumbent, use a general term (e.g., *Sovereign* rather than *King* or *Queen*).

EXAMPLE

Scotland. Sovereign (1649–1685 : Charles II)

Scotland. Sovereign (1542–1567 : Mary)

Spain. Sovereign (1833–1868 : Isabella II)

Spain. Sovereign (1975– : Juan Carlos I)

Spain. Sovereign (1479–1504 : Ferdinand V and Isabella I)

If there are two or more nonconsecutive periods of incumbency, create separate access points.

EXAMPLE

United States. President (1885–1889 : Cleveland)

United States. President (1893–1897 : Cleveland)

Canada. Prime Minister (1867–1873 : Macdonald)

Canada. Prime Minister (1878–1891 : Macdonald)

Record the relationships between the office and the person applying the instructions in chapters 30 and 32.

11.2.2.21.2 Ruling Executive Bodies

Record the name of a ruling executive body (e.g., a military junta) (see 6.31.1) as a subdivision of the authorized access point representing the jurisdiction. Record the name in the official language of the jurisdiction.

EXAMPLE

Argentina. Junta Militar

Somalia. Golaha Sare ee Kacaanka

Thailand. Khana Patiwat

Ghana. Armed Forces Revolutionary Council

If there is more than one official language in the jurisdiction, apply the instructions given under 11.2.2.5.2.

If necessary for identification, add, in parentheses, the inclusive years of the ruling executive body.

EXAMPLE

Chile. Junta de Gobierno (1813)

Chile. Junta de Gobierno (1973–1990)

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Related instruction:

11.2.2.19 TYPE 9. A head of state, head of government, or ruling executive body (see also 11.2.2.21).

EXAMPLE

Adelaide (S. Aust.). Mayor
Dublin (Ireland). Lord Mayor
Morocco. Prime Minister
New Brunswick. Premier
Norway. Sovereign
United States. President
Virginia. Governor