

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Gordon Dunsire, Chair, JSC  
**Subject:** Protocol between the JSC and the FRBR Review Group

**Related documents:**

*6JSC/Chair/21/Shared documents* Documents shared between the JSC and the FRBR Review Group

**Background**

"A key element in the design of RDA is its alignment with the conceptual models for bibliographic and authority data developed by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA):

Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR)

Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD)

Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Data (FRSAD).

The FRBR, FRAD, and FRSAD models provide RDA with an underlying framework that has the scope needed to support:

- a) comprehensive coverage of all types of content and media
- b) the flexibility and extensibility needed to accommodate newly emerging resource characteristics
- c) the adaptability needed for the data produced to function within a wide range of technological environments
- d) coverage of all types of subjects." *RDA 0.2 Conceptual Models Underlying RDA*

RDA uses the FRBR and FRAD entities **Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item, Person, Family, and Corporate Body**.

The JSC has published RDF classes corresponding to these entities, along with RDF properties for associated RDA attributes and relationships.<sup>1</sup> The methodology used to create previous, unpublished RDF element sets for RDA was the basis of the methodology used to create the FRBRer (entity-relationship), FRAD, and FRSAD element sets.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> RDA registry: <http://rdaregistry.info/>

<sup>2</sup> The FRBR vocabularies: <http://iflastandards.info/ns/fr/>

The JSC has decided to wait until the planned consolidation of the FR models is complete before adding further entities to RDA, or mapping the RDA element sets to the FR element sets.

### **Documents**

A list of background and shared harmonization documents is given in *6JSC/Chair/21/Shared documents*.

Mapping documents will be added once the planned consolidation of the FR models is complete.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this protocol is to support communication between the FRBR Review Group and JSC in order to inform decisions that the JSC makes about RDA development and to support semantic interoperability between RDA instructions, elements, and data models, and FRBR, FRAD, FRSAD and related models.

### **Methodology**

The protocol is intended to be light-weight to avoid significant changes to the current practices, priorities, and workflows of the JSC and the FRBR Review Group.

The protocol is supported by the use of shared documents containing alignments and mappings between components of RDA and the FR family of models. The JSC and FRBR Review Group are responsible for maintaining their versions of the shared documentation.

The usual channel of communication between the two groups is the JSC liaison to the FRBR Review Group. The liaison is responsible for routine communication, transmitting proposals and reports, informing the FRBR Review Group of the challenges encountered in implementing the FR family of models in RDA, and monitoring changes to the shared documentation.

The Chair of the JSC will act in place of the JSC liaison if there is a gap in representation, and in other appropriate circumstances.

### **Duties of the JSC**

The JSC will:

- Nominate a liaison to the FRBR Review Group and inform the Chair of the FRBR Review Group, providing contact information for the liaison.
- Consider proposals for developing RDA to improve the semantic interoperability of RDA and the FR models at its annual meeting and according to its policy and procedures.

- Inform the FRBR Review Group of potential or impending changes to RDA which may impact on shared documentation.
- Publish shared documents submitted as proposals or discussion papers to the JSC, according to the JSC's policy and procedures.
- Minimise the delay in publishing new versions of shared documents to maintain synchronization with versions published by the FRBR Review Group.

#### **Duties of the FRBR Review Group**

The FRBR Review Group will:

- Recognize the JSC liaison as one of the FRBR Review Group's official liaisons.
- Inform the JSC of potential or impending changes to the FR family of models that may impact on shared and RDA documentation.
- Publish shared documents according to the FRBR Review Group's policy and procedures.
- Minimise the delay in publishing new versions of shared documents to maintain synchronization with versions published by the JSC.