

State of RDA in Europe and the World

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Chair RDA Steering Committee
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Where do we come from?

- RDA as a standard was first published in 2010.
- It was the successor of AACR2.
- The Anglo-American focus and tradition was inconceivable.

What happened afterwards?

- The user communities around the world that had already been working with AACR2 were the first to adopt the new RDA standard.
- However, new communities, such as the German-speaking community, also began to use RDA for cataloguing.
- This was usually done with policy statements that were implemented directly into the RDA Toolkit.
- The first translations were completed and the RDA Toolkit became multilingual.



3R Project

- Soon after its initial publication, the standard underwent a fundamental revision.
- The 3R project was carried out from 2016 to 2020 with the aim of making RDA linked data-compatible and more international.
- The results were published in 2020 as the new Official RDA.
- The Original RDA online tool were made available in parallel.

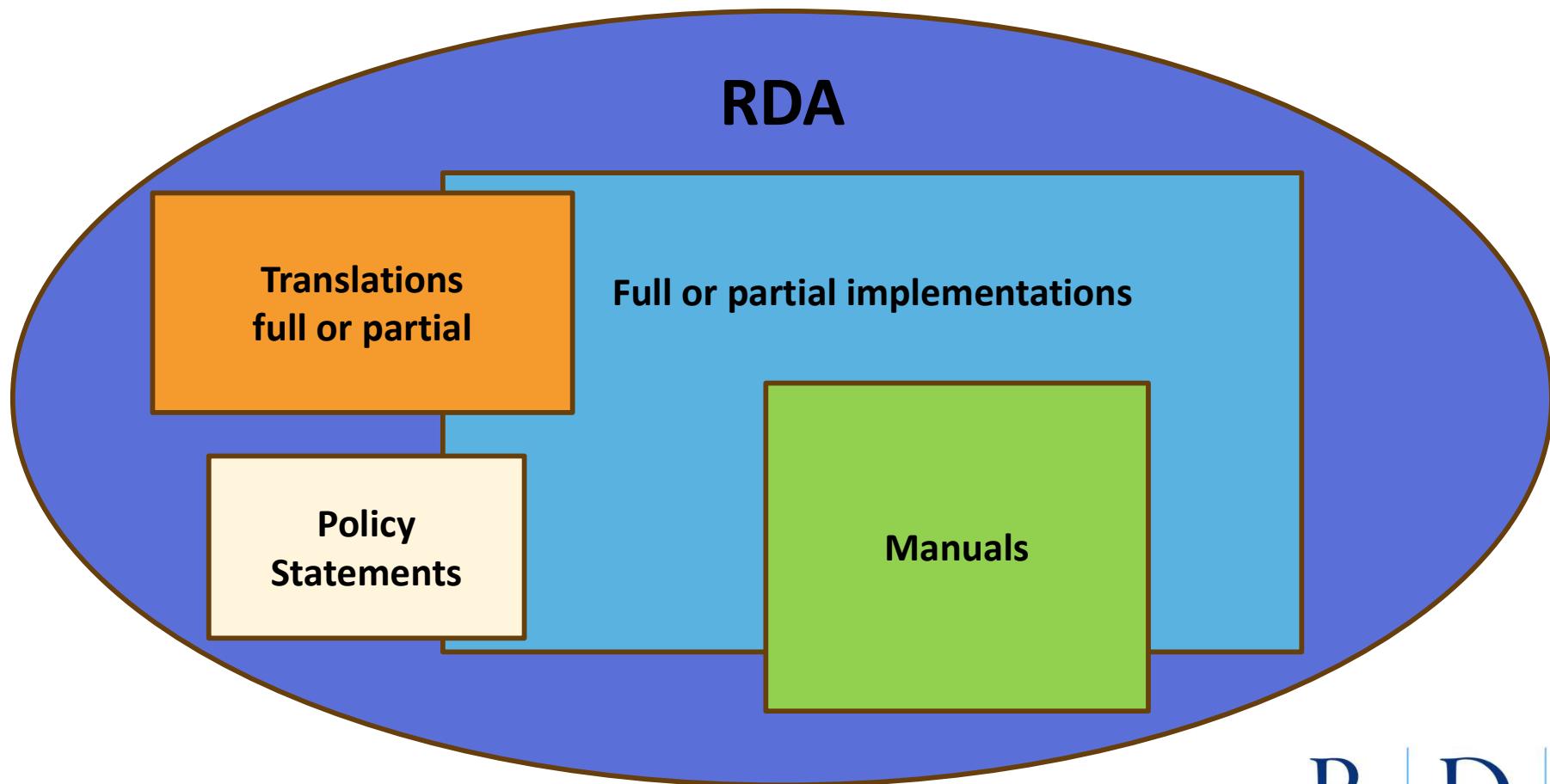
What happened afterwards?

- Following the 3R project, RDA became significantly more international and now offers numerous options designed to meet the requirements of different traditions and cultural backgrounds.
- However, this flexibility also requires greater involvement on the part of user communities, who now have to evaluate the many options available to meet their needs.

What happened in Europe?

- Europe is characterised by many different languages, scripts, traditions and local conditions.
- Against this backdrop, many user communities found it very difficult to find the right path for them.
- EURIG took on an important role here as a forum for exchange and support.

Broad picture of implementations

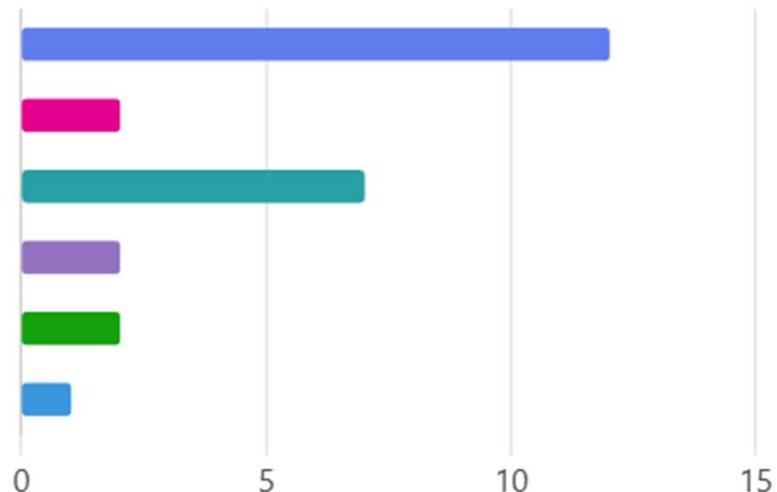


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RDA in Europe

5. Does your institution currently use RDA?

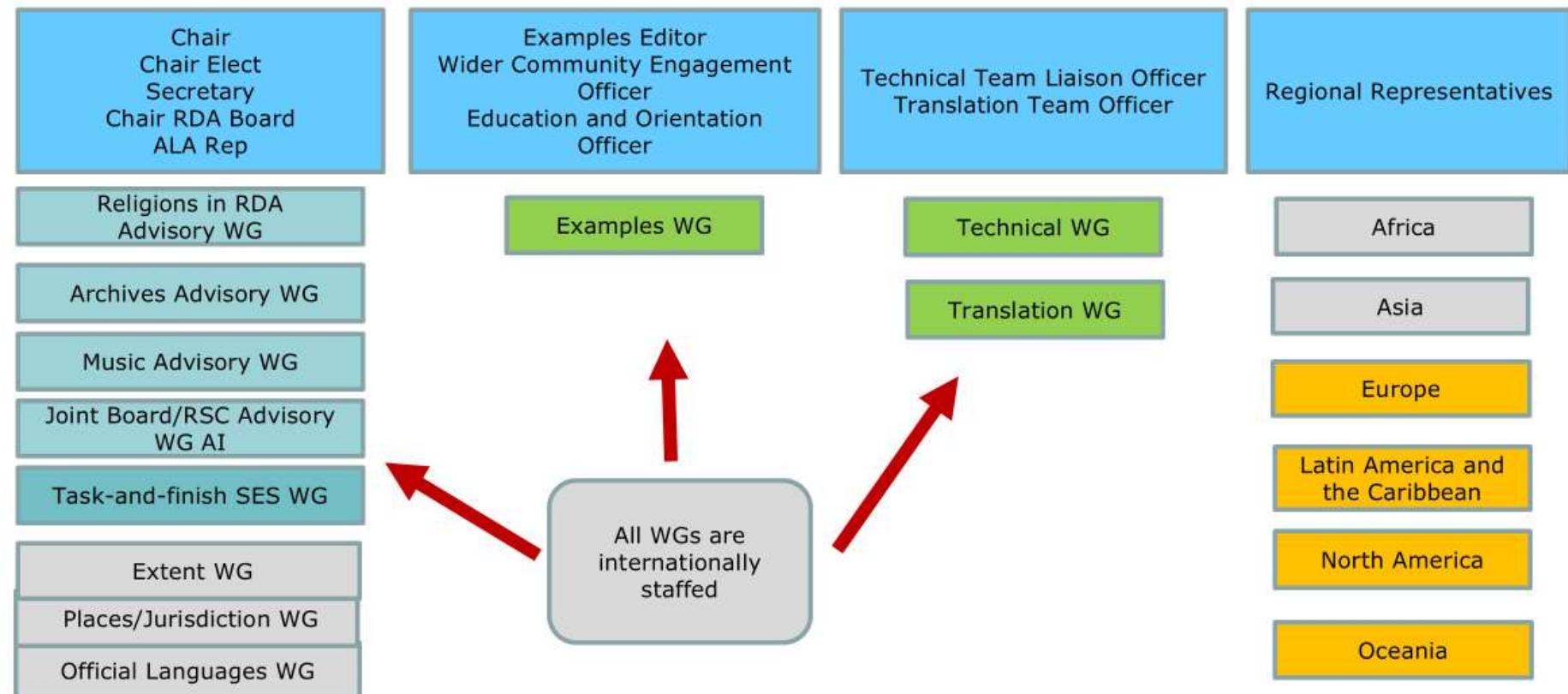
- Yes, Original RDA (pre-3R Project) 12
- Yes, Official RDA 2
- Yes, both (legacy data + new toolkit) 7
- Partially / pilot phase 2
- No, but planned 2
- No, and no plans at present 1



RSC Organisation

RDA Steering Committee

<http://rda-rsc.org/rsc-members>



RSC Working Groups

<https://www.rdata toolkit.org/rsc/workinggroups>

Standing Working Groups

Examples Working Group
Chair: Jessica Grzegorski

Technical Working Group
Chair: Christopher Holden

Translations Working Group
Chair: Szabolcs Dancs

Advisory Working Groups

Archives Working Group
2025-
Chair: Martin Lüpold

Religions in RDA Working Group
2022-
Chair: David Roth

Joint RDA Board and RSC Working
Group on Artificial Intelligence
2024-
Chair: Ahava Cohen

Musik Working Group
2026-
Chair:

Task and finish Working Groups

SES Working Group
2026-2028
Chair: Thomas Brenndorfer

Only virtual meetings

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What about new Topics?

- The RSC continually takes up new topics that are brought up by its own members as well as by communities.
- A particular example of this is the working group that deals with the topic of development and artificial intelligence.
- This takes place in separate RSC working groups, but in close cooperation with other international groups that deal with the same topic.

Revision Process

- Since 2020, Discussion Papers, Proposals and Fast Tracks can once again be submitted via the regional representatives, which are brought to the RSC meetings on a quarterly basis.
- The process for submitting Proposals or Discussion Papers to revise RDA is described here
<https://www.rdata toolkit.org/rsc/submitting-proposals>.



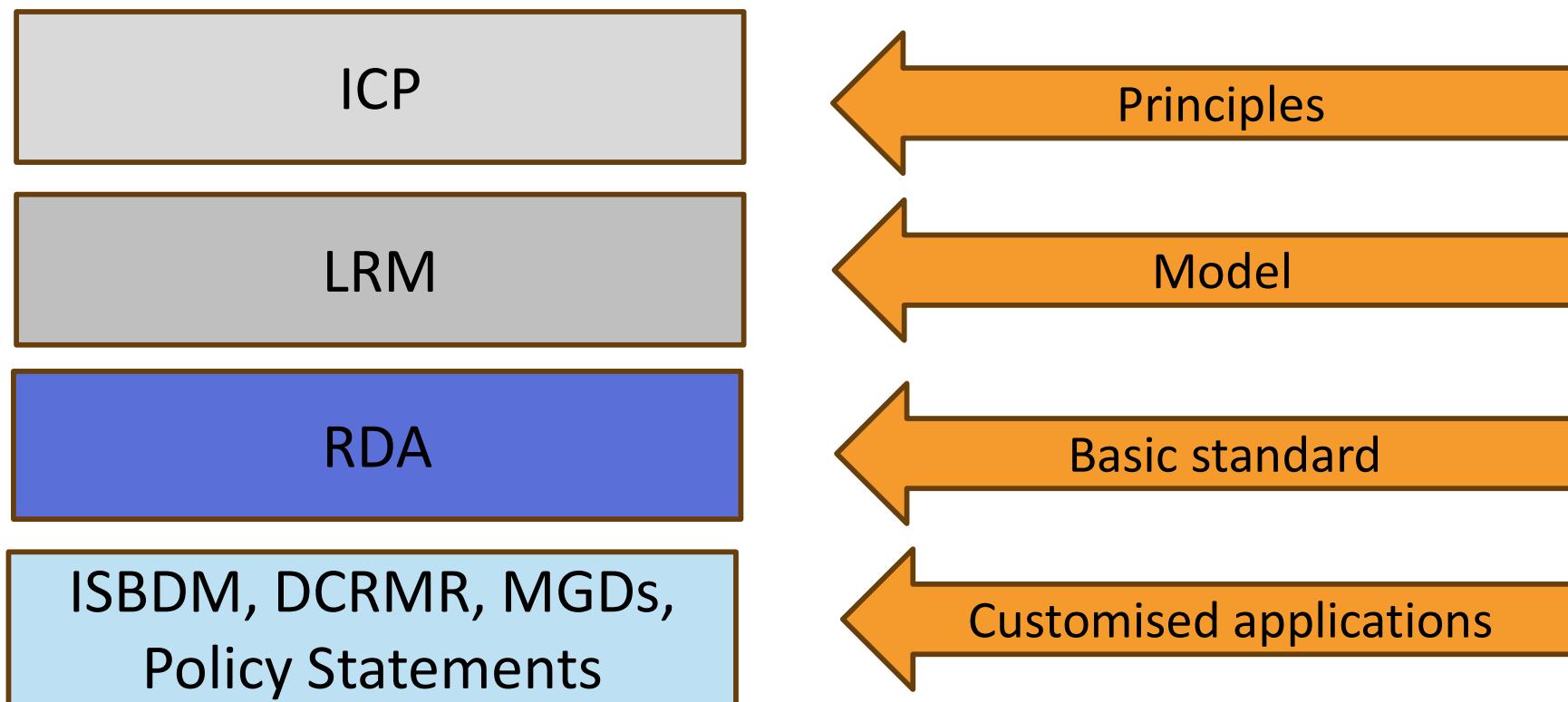
Releases RDA Toolkit

- All changes to the RDA Toolkit are incorporated into the regular releases and are visible to all users.
- Releases are taking place three times a year.
- Policy statements (e.g. British Library and LC/PCC) and other translations (e.g. Finnish) will be added regularly.

Official Protocols

- The RSC and the IFLA Committee on Standards signed an official protocol in August 2024 that regulates their cooperation.
- The RSC has further protocols, e.g. with the ISSN International Centre and the MARC Advisory Committee.
- An official protocol with the BIBFRAME community has been approved in 2025.
- A cooperation with the PCC (the North-American Committee for Cataloguing has started in the last year.

Principles, Models, Standards – a Hierarchy



Switchover to the Official RDA Toolkit



The countdown clock for the Original Toolkit begins on 11 May 2026 and runs for one year until 11 May 2027.

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Thank you for your attention and grateful
for your input!

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