

IFLA Cataloguing section
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Country report Finland
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RDA activities

The National Library of Finland (NLF) implemented RDA at the beginning of 2016. Now, about 50 libraries use RDA as a cataloguing code. Archives and museums apply RDA in the metadata of agents.

NLF co-operates with the publishing sector and the research sector in order to harmonize the cataloguing practices ("Lite RDA"). The harmonization means creating the list of the shared core elements, aligning the terms/concepts and unifying the instructions, as much as possible. The publishing sector uses the Finnish version of the ONIX standard and the research sector has the self-made data model.

NLF has made the full translation of RDA. The plan is to implement the Finnish 3R by the summer 2019.

The cataloguing standard service of NLF

(<https://www.kiwi.fi/display/Kuvailusaantopalvelu/In+English>) and the national working group of cataloguing standard (<https://www.kiwi.fi/display/Kuvailustandardit>) coordinate the RDA activities in Finland. NLF is a member of EURIG and some working groups of RSC.

Platforms for cataloguing

The Finnish RDA libraries catalogue in the MARC 21 format and in the old library systems like Aleph and Voyager. Some libraries will switch to the open source system KOHA in 2019-2020 and others are in the process of choosing a traditional integrated library system like Alma by ExLibris.

The decision about the system/platform of the union catalogue Melinda has not yet been made.

The interest for a new data model that could replace the MARC 21 format is high in Finland. RDA cataloguing in the MARC 21 has proven to be time-consuming and inflexible by the RDA libraries.

ISNI

The first batch file of the records of corporate bodies has been sent from the national bibliography to the international ISNI database. The results (the records with the assigned ISNIs) are expected to be seen in the ISNI database as well as in the union catalogue Melinda in summer 2018.