



IFLA Review Group
UNIMARC

6th UNIMARC Users Meeting



Charting the Course: Future-Forward Cataloguing with UNIMARC

12th November 2024 (IZUM, Maribor, Slovenia / Online)



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PUC Highlights

Activities, Format Updates, and Publications

Branka Badovinac
Institute of Information Science (IZUM)

UNIMARC

- Universal MARC – highly structured and adaptable
- Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC):
 - maintains the UNIMARC format by discussing proposals documented by the UNIMARC Office on behalf of UNIMARC users and officially approving changes to the format. It liaises with Bibliography, Cataloguing and Classification & Indexing Sections, as well as with related Review Groups, on matters of mutual interest;
 - reviews the further development of the UNIMARC format to encompass new functions and new forms of materials and officially approves the results, and
 - acts as a review committee for UNIMARC documentation published by IFLA.



IFLA Review Group UNIMARC

- **Saeedeh Akbari-Daryan** (National Library and Archives of Iran, Iran) (2021–2025)
- **Maria Aslanidi** (Ionian University, Corfu, Greece) (2023–2027)
- **Branka Badovinac** (chair, web page editor) (Institute of Information Science – IZUM, Slovenia) (2021–2025)
- **Frans Hensen** (secretary) (OCLC, Netherlands) (2023–2027)
- **Héloïse Lecomte** (Bibliographic Agency of Higher Education – ABES, France) (2023–2027)
- **Agneta-Elisabeta Lovasz** (Central Library of the University Politehnica Timisoara, Romania) (2023–2027)
- **Gordana Mazić** (Institute of Information Science – IZUM, Slovenia) (2021–2025)
- **Miguel Mimoso Correia** (web page editor) (National Library of Portugal, Portugal) (2021–2025)
- **Olga Zhlobinskaya** (Presidential Library, Saint Petersburg, Russia) (2021–2025)

Liaisons: **Mirna Willer** (ISBD), **Maria Aslanidi** (IAML's Representative), **Florence Tfibel** (Bibliography Section)

Advisors: **Rosa Galvão** (Portugal), **Mirna Willer** (Croatia), **Jay Weitz** (USA)

Main Activities

- Annual meetings on proposals and discussion papers for format development
- Maintaining and publishing documentation
- Projects and working groups
- Conferences and UNIMARC Users Meetings
 - Knowledge exchange and promotion
- Web page:

<https://www.ifla.org/units/unimarc-rg/>



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UNIMARC
Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC)
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UNIMARC Committee

The Universal MARC format (UNIMARC) is a widely used international standard for the representation and exchange of data in machine-readable form. It covers four metadata schemas for bibliographic, classification, authorities and holdings information.

The primary purpose of UNIMARC is to facilitate the international exchange of data in machine-readable form between national bibliographic agencies. The UNIMARC is maintained by the [UNIMARC Committee](#).

For a brief overview of the history, aims and general structure of UNIMARC, see: [UNIMARC: an introduction — Understanding the UNIMARC format](#).

Featured

[NEWS](#)

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UNIMARC Guidelines for Archival Materials

UNIMARC Authorities Format Manual

Permanent UNIMARC Review Group Committee - Annual review 2022

[ALL SECTION RESOURCES →](#)

This unit is sponsored by: [Advisory Committee on Standards](#)

Proposals and discussion papers

Proposals for changes and additions to the UNIMARC formats are discussed annually at meetings of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC). Proposals should be submitted to the national UNIMARC committee or library institution working with the PUC. For UNIMARC users from countries without professional institutions affiliated to the PUC, it is possible to submit the proposal directly to the PUC by prior consultation with the PUC.

The proposal should be prepared according to a defined structure using a template:

[UNIMARC_proposal_form](#)

Download

Please note that the explained examples are the mandatory part of the proposal.

For major changes in content or structure, a discussion paper should be attached, presenting the conceptual idea with a detailed analysis of the problem, the proposed solution scenario with its advantages and limitations, and the justification for the change. Examples of the proposed applications should be included where appropriate.

Format (indicate):	Bibliographic / Authority
No. of proposal (TBA by PUC)	
Date of proposal:	
Source of proposal:	
Type of proposal:	<input type="checkbox"/> Addition <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion
Field(s) / Subfield(s) affected:	
Content of proposal:	
Rationale for proposal:	
Comments:	Changes: • •
History/status:	

<https://www.ifla.org/g/unimarc-rg/permanent-unimarc-committee-puc/>

UNIMARC/B and UNIMARC/A - development in 2024

- URI
 - \$3 – Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number (extended)
 - \$R – Real World Object (URI) (new)
- 27 proposals
 - Mostly for structuring and extending UNIMARC/A to accommodate attributes and relationships elements aligned with IFLA LRM
 - Cluster ISSN (within UNIMARC/B field 011)
 - Electronic Archive Location and Access (new UNIMARC/B field 857)

Manuals - UNIMARC Updates

Authorities Format

- UNIMARC Manual – Authorities Format, online ed. (2023-)
- UNIMARC Manual – Authorities Format, 3rd ed., Updates (2012-2022)
- UNIMARC Manual – Authorities Format, 3rd ed. (2009)
- UNIMARC Manual – Authorities Format, 2nd revised and enlarged ed. (2001)

Bibliographic Format

- UNIMARC Manual – Bibliographic Format, online ed. (2023-)
- UNIMARC Manual – Bibliographic Format, 3rd ed., Updates (2012-2022)
- UNIMARC Manual – Bibliographic Format, 3rd ed. (2008)

UNIMARC Authorities Format Manual (online ed.)

The online edition is published as the latest version in PDF format. The version numbering of the online editions is determined by the type of updates and revisions. Suggestions for the improvement of the standard and the manual can be sent to the e-mail address of the chair of the PUC.

Version	File	Release Date	Notes
1.0.0	PDF	24. 10. 2023	Initial version. Not yet endorsed by the IFLA Professional Committee or Governing Board. Includes 2023 revision and updates. See also: Editing history list . Edited by Gordana Mazić and Branka Badovinac.

EXPRESSON

106 CODED DATA FIELD: ENTITY NAME AS SUBJECT ACCESS POINT

120 CODED DATA FIELD: PERSONAL NAME

122 CODED DATA FIELD: TIME PERIOD OF WORK CONTENT

Field Definition and Scope

Subfields & Occurrence

Indicators

Subfields Description

\$a Time Period, 9999 B.C. to Present

Notes on Field Contents

\$a/0 Era Identifier

\$a/1-4 Year

\$a/5-6 Month

\$a/7-8 Day

\$a/9-10 Time

Related Fields

Examples

History

123 CODED DATA FIELD: TERRITORIAL OR GEOGRAPHICAL NAME

125 CODED DATA FIELD: INTENDED AUDIENCE

127 CODED DATA FIELD: DURATION AND CAPTURE INFORMATION

128 CODED DATA FIELD: FORM OF MUSICAL WORK AND KEY OR MODE

140 CODED DATA FIELD: CONTENT AND FORM OF WORK

145 CODED DATA FIELD: CONTENT TYPE OF EXPRESSION

146 CODED DATA FIELD: MEDIUM OF PERFORMANCE

147 CODED DATA FIELD: COLOUR AND SOUND CONTENT

150 CODED DATA FIELD: CORPORATE NAME

152 RULES

122 CODED DATA FIELD: TIME PERIOD OF WORK CONTENT

122 CODED DATA FIELD: TIME PERIOD OF WORK CONTENT

Field Definition and Scope
A formatted indication of the period covered by work content.
Repeatable only to distinguish between multiple single dates and a range of dates.

Subfields & Occurrence			
Field/Subfield	Field/Subfield Name	Repeatability	Occurrence
122	CODED DATA FIELD: TIME PERIOD OF WORK CONTENT	R	O
a	Time period, 9999 B.C. to present	R	O

Indicators		
Indicator	Value	Description
1		Number of Dates Indicator
	0	Single dated item
	1	Multiple single dates
	2	Range of dates
2	#	blank (not defined)

Subfields Description		
\$a Time Period, 9999 B.C. to Present Repeatable. (EX 1). See also EX 2, 3, 4. Subfield \$a consists of a minimum of 5-characters and a maximum of 11. The components are:		
Name of Data Element	Number of Characters	Character Position
Era Identifier	1	0
Year	4	1-4
Month	2	5-6
Day	2	7-8
Time	2	9-10

Notes on Field Contents

\$a/0 Era Identifier
Codes indicate an era of the period.
The subfield is 1-character in length. Mandatory.
Codes:

c	date falls before the year 1 in the Gregorian calendar, i.e. B.C.
d	date falls after the year 1 in the Gregorian calendar, i.e. A.D.

\$a/1-4 Year
4-numeric characters right justified; unused positions contain zeros. Mandatory.

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122 CODED DATA FIELD: TIME PERIOD OF WORK CONTENT

\$a/5-6 Month
2-numeric characters right justified; unused positions contain zeros. Optional.

\$a/7-8 Day
2-numeric characters right justified; unused positions contain zeros. Optional.

\$a/9-10 Time
2-numeric characters right justified; unused positions contain zeros. Based on a 24-hour clock, local time, rounded to the nearest whole hour. Optional.
If one optional code is used, all the earlier optional codes must be used.

Related Fields	
UNIMARC/Authorities format	
Fields 6-- block	
UNIMARC/Bibliographic format	
122 CODED DATA FIELD: TIME PERIOD OF RESOURCE CONTENT	This field contains a formatted indication of the period covered by the resource.
661 TIME PERIOD CODE	This field contains the time period code, indicating only the decades covered by the resource.

Examples	
EX 1	
122 2#\$ad1971\$ad1979	
122 0#\$ad1986	
Codes for a map surveyed between 1971 and 1979 and then revised to add 1986 information.	
EX 2	
122 0#\$ad16051105	
The code for Guy Fawkes' Gunpowder Plot, 5 November 1605.	
EX 3	
122 0#\$ad1976080214	
The situation date (2 August 1976, 14:08 hours) of a remote sensing image.	
EX 4	
122 2#\$ad1992\$ad1997	
The <i>Godišnje izvješće</i> (Annual Report) of the State Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Croatia published in 1998 for the years 1992 to 1997. The coverage dates are recorded in a 122 field.	
History	
2012	New field.
2023	Text edit.

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UNIMARC Guidelines



International
Federation of
Library
Associations and Institutions

UNIMARC Guidelines for Archival Materials

Prepared by Olga Zhlobinskaya for the Permanent UNIMARC Committee (PUC)

UNIMARC Guidelines no. 10



Olga Zhlobinskaya, 2023.

Projects and working groups

- UNIMARC – ISBDM Harmonisation – with ISBD Review Group Task Force on ISBD for Manifestation (in progress)
- UNIMARC – IFLA LRM Mapping (closed)
- IFLA Namespaces – with Metatec (in progress)
- LRM, RDA, UNIMARC Authorities, BIBFRAME Mapping for Musical Works (in progress)
- Project “Future of UNIMARC”
 - Worldwide Survey: Landscape of Data Structure and Exchange Standards Survey
 - 6th UNIMARC Users Meeting: Charting the Course: Future-Forward Cataloguing with UNIMARC, 12th November 2024 (Maribor, Slovenia/Online)

Future of UNIMARC

The “Future of UNIMARC” project aims to facilitate exchanging, sharing and generating knowledge about the future of UNIMARC.

The project focuses on exploring UNIMARC’s range of uses, increasing familiarity with its entity-relationship (ER) cataloguing track, and gathering information about the library community’s needs.

This could be done through exploring current and future trends within the information technologies sector, gaining more knowledge as to where we stand now, what do and should we expect from UNIMARC in the future, taking into account all aspects of the format.

Follow the project: <https://www.ifla.org/g/unimarc-rg/projects/>

Thank you for attention.

More information?

Contact: branka.badovinac@izum.si