

28 June 2021

# Metadata Services: Advance information about planned changes in MARC 21 format for authority data of the GND from February 2022 (Export-Release 2022.01)

Dear Sir or Madam

Release 2021.03 contains **no** changes affecting authority data of the Integrated Authority File (GND).

Looking further ahead, we would like to inform you about the plans in place for Release 2022.01, which will contain a number of adjustments to all the fields in the MARC 21 format for authority data.

Please note that this advance information on possible future changes is, by its nature, incomplete; changes may also be postponed to a later release or omitted entirely. Similarly, there may also be further major changes to the content. Which of the points are in fact implemented can be found in the corresponding release announcement which will be issued in November 2021.

Further information on the release cycle can be obtained from: <https://wiki.dnb.de/x/wgcbBQ>

The mid-February 2022 release is expected to include the following changes affecting authority data:

- | In general, it will be necessary to enter information about the context of use in every field and also to export it. The plan is to deliver the information about the context of use in a local subfield "\$9C:" newly created in MARC 21.
- | Information about the specific responsibility of an institution for the given statement in each field must also be entered and exported. Statements regarding the responsibility of organisations for specific data fields will be entered in subfield \$5. For MARC fields that have no subfield \$5, there are plans to create a new local subfield "\$95:" in which this information can be entered on a provisional basis.

Both markers must be understood as part of a general concept relating to statements about statements (meta-metadata, in the context of RDA also known as "data provenance" in a broader sense). The following types of information are also part of this general concept and are already covered in the export format MARC 21 for authority data: script (\$9U:) and language (\$9L:) of the statement, data provenance (\$9H:) of the statement, validity period of the statement (\$9Z:).

The official documentation of the MARC fields described can be found on the Library of Congress website<sup>1</sup>.

The current full field description for the Integrated Authority File is stored on the German National Library's website in PDF and Excel format.<sup>2</sup>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to mail us at [metadatendienste@dnb.de](mailto:metadatendienste@dnb.de) or phone us on +49 69 1525-1630.

Kind regards,  
on behalf of Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (German National Library)  
Heike Eichenauer

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/marc/authority/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dnb.de/marc21>