

To: Dominique Bourassa, Chair
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

From: Robert Bratton, representative, American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)

Subject: Revision proposal for RDA instructions for the names of international courts (RDA 11.2.2.21).

Background

RDA carried over instructions for recording the names of courts from AACR2. These instructions deal with civil and criminal courts that exercise the law of a single jurisdiction, and with ad hoc military courts. However, there are no instructions for recording the names of international courts. These kinds of courts have existed for many years, and the unwritten practice has been to treat their names like any other corporate body names. We feel it would be ideal to have this codified in the actual instructions with illustrative examples.

Recommendation

The American Association of Law Libraries recommends that an instruction and examples be added to RDA 11.2.2.21. The instructions should explicitly state how to record the names of international courts, and the examples should illustrate what the names of these kinds of courts look like. We note that this is an instruction where RDA is using the word “record” but is really talking about structuring preferred names. However, we felt rewriting the entire instruction was beyond the scope of this proposal.

The proposal is based on the text in the RDA Toolkit as of September 2015.

Proposal

11.2.2.21 Courts

Record the names of courts by applying these instructions, as applicable:

civil and criminal courts (see 11.2.2.21.1)

ad hoc military courts (see 11.2.2.21.2)-

international courts (see 11.2.2.21.3).

11.2.2.21.1-11.2.2.21.2

[Text unchanged]

[11.2.2.21.3 International Courts](#)

Record the name of an international court by applying the general instructions at 11.2.2.4

EXAMPLE

International Criminal Court

Permanent Court of Arbitration

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

Clean text

11.2.2.21 Courts

Record the names of courts by applying these instructions, as applicable:

civil and criminal courts (see 11.2.2.21.1)

ad hoc military courts (see 11.2.2.21.2)

international courts (see 11.2.2.21.3).

11.2.2.21.1-11.2.2.21.2

[Text unchanged]

[11.2.2.21.3 International Courts](#)

Record the name of an international court by applying the general instructions at 11.2.2.4

EXAMPLE

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