

ICA Expert Group on Archival Description (EGAD) Report to the Programme Committee May 2017

Prepared by
Daniel Pitti, Chair/President EGAD

The ICA EGAD is in the fourth year of an effort to develop a conceptual model for archival description that integrates and reconciles the four existing ICA descriptive standards.

In September 2016, the EGAD released for comments the initial draft of Records in Contexts: Conceptual Model (RiC-CM), a standard for the description of archival records. At the ICA Congress in Seoul, Korea in September 2016, five members of EGAD spoke in two sessions, one devoted to presenting an overview of RiC-CM, and two others in a panel session devoted to archival and records management description of records. Both sessions were well attended.

Since the release of the RiC-CM draft, several members of EGAD have participated in various workshops on the standard. (See list below).

The comment period for RiC-CM ended January 31, 2017. At the close of the comment period, 62 sets of comments from 19 countries were submitted, some by individuals, and others by groups, many representing national archival professional organizations. Kat Timms of Library and Archives Canada has compiled and organized the comments. When compiled, the comments span over 200 pages.

In February 2017, Daniel Pitti, Florence Clavaud, and Salvatore Vassallo met for four days at the Archives Nationales de France, Pierrefitte. This meeting was devoted to working on an early draft of Records in Contexts-Ontology (RiC-O). Based on this meeting, Clavaud has prepared a first though incomplete draft for review by the technical team working on the Ontology.

The EGAD has begun the daunting task of evaluating in the comments. Over the summer of 2017, the EGAD will meet (teleconference) to discuss and begin incorporating changes and revision of the standard based on the comments. In October 2017, the EGAD will be meeting in Rome, hosted by the Istituto Centrale per gli Archivi, with Stefano Vitali responsible for local arrangements and planning. The three-day meeting will be focused on the production of the second draft of RiC-CM.

While planning remains to be completed, the EGAD will also conduct a workshop and participate in at least one session on RiC-CM at the ICA Annual Meeting, Mexico City.

In late 2016 and early 2017, members of EGAD gave presentations or workshops on RiC-CM.

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Vitor Fonseca (Brazil)

- Congresso Nacional de Arquivologia, Fortaleza, Ceará, October 10th 2016
- Universidade federal Fluminense, students from the graduation courses on Archival Science and Librarian Science and to the Information Science Post-Graduation (masters and doctorate)
- Presentation organized by the Conselho Nacional de Arquivos

Adrian Cunningham (Australia)

- Australasian Team meeting of the InterPARES Trust research project in Wellington, New Zealand in December 2016

Bogdan-Florin Popovici (Romania)

- Article: RECORDS IN CONTEXTS. Towards a New Level in Archival Description in "Tehnicni in Vsebinski Problemi Klasincnega in elektronskega arhiviranja", Maribor, 2016. (ed. electronică)
- The National Records and Archives Administration of Oman, training course. Representatives from Algeria, Sudan, Palestine, Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco, Libya, Iraq, Mauritania, and Comoros. May 2017
- Kickoff Conference of the e-Archives Project of the National Archives of Slovenia-- "Records in Contexts (RIC). Next Step in Archival Description" 2016
- "A broader perspective over records, as seen by 'RiC,'" ICA Congress, Seoul, 2016
- Autumn School of the International Institute of Archival Science, Trieste-Maribor-- "New layers of context for archives". 2016

Florence Clavaud (France)

- Archives nationales de France (2 workshops for approximately 60 archivists). October and December 2016
- Association des Archivistes Suisses, Basel, Switzerland, November 2016
- French graduate students in records management, March 2016
- Service interministériel des Archives de France organized 3 workshops on RIC-CM, that were attended by about 60 archivists, records managers and researchers. Presented with Hélène Zettel, November and December 2016

Salvatore Vassallo (Italy)

- National Association of Italian Archivists, Rome, November 2016. Presented with Stefano Vitali

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- School of archival science - State Archive of Milan, Milan, November 2016

Stefano Vitali (Italy)

- Roma, National Library, organized in collaboration with Italian National Archival Association and Italian National Library, Rome, November 2016
- Fondazione Basso, organized in collaboration with the regional branch for Lazio of the Italian National Archival Association, Rome, January 2017
- Florence State Archives, organized in collaboration with the regional branch for Tuscany of the Italian National Archival Association, January 2017
- University of Bologna, organized in collaboration with the regional branch for Emilia-Romagna of the Italian National Archival Association and the University of Bologna, March 2017
- Soprintendenza archivistica e bibliografica delle Marche e dell'Umbria, organized in collaboration with the regional branch for Umbria and Marche of the Italian National Archival Association and the Soprintendenza archivistica e bibliografica delle Marche e dell'Umbria, the State Archives of Perugia and the State Archives of Terni, Perugia, March 2017

Bill Stocking (U.K.)

- Archives and Records Association, Section on Archival Technology, November 2016
- The National Archives, UK, January 2017
- University of Liverpool: New Standards for Archives and Records Management Workshop, March 2017
- University of London, Archives and Society Lecture on RiC, March 2017
- Irish National Archives, New Standards for Archives and Records Management Workshop, Dublin, 2017
- Forthcoming: Archives and Records Association Annual Conference, Paper on RiC, August 2017

Daniel Pitti (U.S.)

- Records in Contexts: Conceptual Model, ICA Congress, Seoul, 2016. Presented with Florence Clavaud and Bill Stocking
- Forthcoming: AVEC (Archives Week), organized by National Archives of Sweden and five Swedish archival associations, session presentation and workshop, Visby, Gotland, Sweden, May 2017