The Library of Congress has been notified that articles for the Breton language are not included in the list of articles in AACR2 E.1A. The source of the request is an email to LC first forwarded to the Network Development and MARC Office and then forwarded to the Cataloging Policy and Support Office. The message is from Philippe Le Pape (Philippe.Le-Pape@biu.toulouse.fr) and states: “Dear LC, the Breton language articles are absent from the list (definite : an, ar, indefinite : eun, eur) – which leads to filing errors in LC’s catalogue (for example, 740 __ Sa Ar mên du should read: 740 3_ $a...).”

Sources for Determining Articles

A search based on Breton grammars in the Library of Congress does not result in a consistent statement with respect to articles. A composite list from consulting various sources results in the following definite articles: al, an, ar; and the following indefinite articles: ul, un, ur, eul, eun, eur.

The bases for this composite list are as follows:

1. Galand, Rene – The Breton language : an introduction / Reun Ar C’halan ; prepared by the U.S. Branch of the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language – Plymouth Meeting, Pa., U.S.A. : The Branch, [1984], p. 8: “The definite article is ar. It changes to al before initial l, and to an before initial t or d). It corresponds to Gaelic an and to Welsh y (yr). The indefinite article is ur (ul before initial l, and un before initial t or d).”

2. Conroy, Joseph F. – Breton-English/English-Breton : dictionary and phrasebook / Joseph Conroy. – New York : Hippocrene Books, c1997, p. 27: “The indefinite article (‘a/an’) also has three forms, ur/un/ul, which occur under the same circumstances as ar/an/al ... Remember that, for most speakers, the u of ur/un/ul is that found in the French word tu. Other speakers of Breton may use a sound like that of eu (as in French peu), and often spell the indefinite article as eur/eun/eul.”

p. 88 under a section headed “Numbers”:

“1 unan
Unan occurs alone, or before an adjective. Before a noun, we must use ur/un/ul.”

   “L’article breton ne s’accorde NI EN GENRE NI EN NOMBRE:

   an peut signifier le, la ou les;
eun peut signifier un or une.

   Mais, selon l’initiale du mot que le suit:

   l’article défini peut être
   an, al, ar;
   l’article indéfini peut être
   eun, eul, eur.”

   p. 123 under a section headed “La Numération Les Nombres Cardinaux”:


   1 : – eun (eur, eul), ‘article indéfini’, lorsqu’il est suivi d’un ‘nom’:

   ne brenin nemet eul lur avalou, je n’achèterai qu’une livre de pommes

   – unan, lorsque ‘un’ (‘une’) est pronom:

   kavet em-eus unan, j’en ai trouvé un ...”


   DEFINITE       INDEFINITE

   | an  | un  | + n, d, t, h, vowel |
   | al  | ul  | + l |
   | ar  | ur  | + other consonants |

   p. 86 under a section headed 5. The Numeral:

   ‘5.2 Cardinal Numerals

   Of the cardinals, unan “one” is pronominal; adjectivally, it takes the form of the indefinite article: un, ur, ul. Occasionally, un is found pronominally.”


   “Y1. L’article
The definite article is al, an, ar (the).
The indefinite article is ul, un, ur (a, an).

**Use:**

- al and ul before the consonant /L/ ...
- an and un before the consonants /D, N, T/ ...
- and before vowels and silent H’s ...
- ar and ur before other consonants …”

6. LC has records containing the following titles:

- Al Lanv
- An tri boulomig kalon aour
- Ar garantez medish : hervez Molière

- Eun toullad kontadennou
- Eur veaj e Stadou-Unanet an Amerik

Ur galedenn a zen

**Proposed revision of AACR E.1A**

As shown below, LC is proposing the addition of eight Breton articles and the revision of the line for the article “un” to add Breton to the list of languages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article(s)</th>
<th>Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>al</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>an</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ar</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*eul</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*eun</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*eur</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*ul</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*un</td>
<td>Breton, Catalan, French, Italian, Provenca/Occitan, Romanian, Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*ur</td>
<td>Breton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>