

**TO:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**FROM:** Alan Danskin, British Library representative to JSC  
**SUBJECT:** Revision of RDA 11.2.2: Heads of State and Heads of Government

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BL thanks ALA for this review of the issues. However BL does not support the proposal.

BL is concerned that the impact of applying the changes retrospectively has not been addressed.

The justification for the change is to internationalise the instructions and to remove inconsistencies. In our view, the benefits that would accrue from the change are insufficient to justify the additional work required.

In practice, the controlled access points will not be significantly more "international" but may be less intelligible to users whose first or only language is English:

**Spain.** Rey

Spain Sovereign

**Spain.** Monarca (1479-1504 : Ferdinand **and** Isabella)

Spain. Sovereigns (1479-1504 : Ferdinand and Isabella)

Editorial issues

1. The proposed instructions do not make any explicit reference to Status of Identification 8.10, although the requirement to create preliminary authority records is discussed in the preamble.
2. Comments were requested (page 6) regarding the preferred construction for the phrase "Person applying the instructions". BL agrees that this is ambiguous. BL prefers the following construction:

"record...by applying the instructions..."