

**To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA**  
**From: Alan Danskin, United Kingdom Representative**  
**Subject: Revision and Expansion of RDA Appendix K: Relationship Designators: Relationships Between Persons, Families, and Corporate Bodies. UK Response**

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The British Library and CILIP thank ALA for the proposed revisions to Sources of Information, which were discussed by the CILIP/BL Committee on RDA. We agree with the proposals to restructure Appendix K, with the following exceptions.

## Specific Comments

### K.3.1.1

**Alternate Identity:** this is more properly a relationship between names and should not be in scope.

### K.3.4

This section is also about relationships between identities or nomens and is out of scope.

## Event and multiple entities

Concern was expressed regarding the treatment of events as corporate bodies. This is only appropriate if the event results in a resource, and it is not certain that is always the case, or that it will be the usage. In any case, there are likely to be more general issues with event, in the light of FRBRoo/FRBR-LRM. This is exemplified by the "too many entities problem":

**delegate:** A person who represents a corporate body at the related conference, meeting, event, etc.

**delegate to:** A conference, meeting, event, etc. that is attended by the related person as the representative of another corporate body

There appear to be three entities involved, not two: the event/Corporate Body, the Person, and the Corporate Body the person represents. This is not consistent with the underlying RDA models. In the proposal, the proposed designators "representative" and "representative of" form one of the other possible sets of relationships:

EventCB delegate Person/Person representative of CB

CB representative Person/Person delegate to EventCB

Both designators are required to keep the three entities linked, but that means both statements made using the designators must be kept together, e.g. in a MARC record (what would that look like?) or a reified RDF graph.

Another example:

**participant:** a person, family, or corporate body that takes part in the related event.

**participant in:** an event in which the related person, family, or corporate body participates

The designators "participant" and "participant in" relate an EventCB to a CB:

EventCB participant (PF)CB

(PF)CB participant in EventCB

Is participant a short-cut for delegate/representative?

On the basis of our analysis so far, the "too many entities" problem seems to be confined to event designators, but certainly needs further discussion.