

# DCAT-AP issues 31 August 2015

Makx Dekkers/2015-08-31

## Issues related to Agent roles

### 1. Semantics of Authority

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/semantics-authority](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/semantics-authority)

Analysis: Neither dct:rightsHolder nor dct:creator fits the semantics perfectly. However, it seems that the intended semantics of Authority are closer to the semantics of dct:creator than to dct:rightsHolder. For example, the Authority might be a particular agency while the rights could be held by a higher entity (e.g. the Crown). If the usage note were to be changed from “This property refers to the authority under whose responsibility the Dataset is made available” to “This property refers to the authority under whose responsibility the Dataset was created” the match with dct:creator might be more obvious.

Propose: Change usage note for the property authority (dct:creator) to “This property refers to the authority under whose responsibility the Dataset was created”.

### 2. Clarification of Agent roles

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/clarification-agent-roles](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/clarification-agent-roles)

### 3. Define new property for type of contributor

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/define-new-property-type-contributor](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/define-new-property-type-contributor)

### 4. Add dct:contributor to Dataset

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/add-dctcontributor-dataset](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/add-dctcontributor-dataset)

Analysis: Taking these three together, it should be noted that the current DCAT-AP only allows expression of two roles, creator/authority and publisher.

*See also discussion on Agent roles for GeoDCAT.*

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/geodcat-ap-how-express-different-responsible-party-roles-suppor](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/geodcat-ap-how-express-different-responsible-party-roles-suppor).

The decision taken in the GeoDCAT Working Group is that the basic profile only contains the two properties dct:creator and dct:publisher, and that an extended profile includes a mechanism based on the PROV ontology in which the role is expressed using the INSPIRE type vocabulary. Please note that dcat:contactPoint is not an Agent role; it is a mechanism to provide contact information.

Proposal: Add a section about Agent roles to explain that (a) the basic profile only allows the expression of those two roles which is a minimum requirement to ensure cross-domain interoperability and (b) in line with the approach decided by the GeoDCAT group, domain-specific extensions can use a PROV-based mechanism with the use of a domain-specific role vocabulary like the ones defined for INSPIRE, DataCite and MARC (<http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/relators>, described at <http://loc.gov/marc/relators/relaterm.html>).

## Issues needing clarifications

### 5. Use of Checksum class

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/use-checksum-class](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/use-checksum-class)

Analysis: The Checksum class is optional with two mandatory properties.

Proposal: Add a note in the conformance statement section that recommended and optional classes may have mandatory properties, but that those only apply if and when an instance of such a class is present in a description.

### 6. Recommended class: MUST or SHOULD

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/recommended-class-must-or-should](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/recommended-class-must-or-should)

Analysis: Discussion has taken place, and new text has been proposed.

Proposal: Modify the text for Recommended class to “a sender of data SHOULD provide information about instances of the class; a sender of data MUST provide information about instances of the class, if such information is available.”

### 7. Licence types (mapping creating overhead)

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/licence-types](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/licence-types)

### 8. Licence types (semantics)

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/licence-types-0](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/licence-types-0)

Analysis: Issues related to licence types have been discussed before in issue [https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/pr23-remove-licence-type-licence-document](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/pr23-remove-licence-type-licence-document). The decision was that the licence type should not be dropped. The controlled vocabulary that must be used was agreed between W3C and the European Commission.

Proposal: No change

### 9. Clarify target for dcat:landingPage

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/clarify-target-dcatlandingpage](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/clarify-target-dcatlandingpage)

Analysis: A clarification can be added if it is indeed agreed that this is what the property should link to.

Proposal: Add clarification “dcat:landingPage is intended to point to a landing page at the original data provider, not to a page on a site of a third party, such as an aggregator” in section 4.3.3.

### 10. Drop maximum cardinality constraint on dcat:landingPage

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/drop-maximum-cardinality-constraint-dcatlandingpage](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/drop-maximum-cardinality-constraint-dcatlandingpage)

Analysis: This cardinality can be relaxed if there is consensus that this is useful.

Proposal: Change cardinality of dcat:landingPage to 0..n.

### 11. Values for dct:language

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/values-dctlanguage](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/values-dctlanguage)

Analysis: The draft is quite clear that the values should be references to the MDR Languages NAL and not codes from ISO 639.

Proposal: Add a note in section 8 to highlight the fact that all occurrences of dct:language must have a URI as their object, not a literal string from the ISO 639 code list.

### 12. Distinguish controlled vocabularies for dcat:theme and dcat:themeTaxonomy

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/distinguish-controlled-vocabularies-dcattheme-and-dcatthemetaxo](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/distinguish-controlled-vocabularies-dcattheme-and-dcatthemetaxo)

Analysis: The object of the property dcat:themeTaxonomy should be the URI of the vocabulary, while the object of the property dcat:theme should be the URI of one of the terms in the vocabulary. The current draft does not make this distinction clear.

Proposal: Add clarification in the table.

### 13. Controlled vocabulary for type of adms:Identifier

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/controlled-vocabulary-type-admsidentifier](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/controlled-vocabulary-type-admsidentifier)

Analysis: The namespace schema for ADMS <http://www.w3.org/ns/adms> defines the way the identifier scheme is expressed as follows: “the content string should be provided using skos:notation, datatype with the identifier scheme”. ADMS does not identify the URI set to be used for the references to the identifier schemes, and the DataCite list could be used for this if it is considered sufficiently general.

Proposal: Add section in chapter 4 to describe adms:Identifier with mandatory property skos:notation and datatype reference from DataCite list.

### 14. Vocabularies with draft status

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/vocabularies-draft-status](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/vocabularies-draft-status)

Analysis: All controlled vocabularies that DCAT-AP declares mandatory must be publicly available in final form from a stable URI.

Proposal: Verify that all vocabularies in the mandatory list are stable and remove all draft vocabularies from the list.

### 15. Publish and use publicly available vocabularies

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/publish-and-use-publicly-available-vocabularies](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/publish-and-use-publicly-available-vocabularies)

Analysis: This is useful advice.

Proposal: Add a sentence to section 5.3 to encourage the publication and use of publicly available vocabularies.

### 16. Mandatory vocabularies

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/mandatory-vocabularies](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/mandatory-vocabularies)

Analysis: The declaration of some controlled vocabularies as mandatory is done to enable a minimum level of interoperability. Any implementation is free to use controlled vocabularies in addition to the ones that are mandatory, e.g. in a national extension, but those may not always be understood beyond national borders.

Proposal: Add further clarification in section 5.3 to explain that the objective of making vocabularies mandatory is to ensure minimal interoperability.

### 17. Add MDR Continents NAL to the recommended vocabularies for spatial coverage

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/add-mdr-continents-nal-recommended-vocabularies-spatial-coverag](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/add-mdr-continents-nal-recommended-vocabularies-spatial-coverag)

Analysis: Vocabulary can be added if there is consensus that this is useful.

Proposal: Add MDR Continents NAL in section 5.2 for dct:spatial.

## Issues not to fix

### 18. Literal and Resource as Mandatory classes

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/literal-and-resource-mandatory-classes](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/literal-and-resource-mandatory-classes)

Analysis: These two classes are included in the table of mandatory classes for completeness; all classes mentioned in mandatory properties of mandatory classes are listed here.

Proposal: No change

### 19. Licence Documents and Rights Statements

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/licence-documents-and-rights-statements](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/licence-documents-and-rights-statements)

Analysis: The way that statements concerning licences and rights might be related is left open in the specification. Further description of such relationships might be the subject of implementation guidelines.

Proposal: No change.

### 20. Rights on Distribution, Access rights on Dataset

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/rights-distribution-access-rights-dataset](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/rights-distribution-access-rights-dataset)

Analysis: The addition of `dct:accessRights` to Dataset was the result of earlier discussion ([https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/pr2-add-new-property-dataset-indicate-whether-dataset-public-re](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/pr2-add-new-property-dataset-indicate-whether-dataset-public-re)). DCAT lists `dct:rights on Distribution`.

Proposal: No change.

### 21. Licence on Distribution

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/licence-distribution](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/licence-distribution)

Analysis: The usage in DCAT-AP is in line with DCAT.

Proposal: No change.

### 22. Frequency vocabulary

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/frequency-vocabulary](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/frequency-vocabulary)

Analysis: The question is whether it is wrong to use references to things that are not declared to be `dct:Frequency` in the absence of an explicit assertion that the classes are disjunct. Note that the same issue applies to the use of other NALs (e.g. Countries, Languages) where elements are declared to be `skos:Concepts`.

Proposal: No change.

### 23. Exclude Regions, cities from theme vocabulary

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/exclude-regions-cities-theme-vocabulary](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/exclude-regions-cities-theme-vocabulary)

Analysis: The term to be used as object of `dcat:theme` is an instance of the class `skos:Concept` while terms to be used as objects of `dct:spatial` are instances of the class `dct:Location`. There seems to be no contradiction: the theme of a Dataset could be “Regions, cities” in general while the object of `dct:spatial` would be the URI of a specific city or region.

Proposal: No change.

## Editorial issues

### 24. Naming Issue - Catalogue vs. Catalog

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/naming-issue-catalogue-vs-catalog](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/naming-issue-catalogue-vs-catalog)

Analysis: Checked whole document and found no errors

### 25. Proposal: No changeErrors in UML Class Diagram

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/errors-uml-class-diagram](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/errors-uml-class-diagram)

Analysis: adms:contactPoint should be dcat:contactPoint; dct:theme should be dcat:theme.

Proposal: Change as suggested.

### 26. Errors in Annex I Quick reference

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/errors-annex-i-quick-reference](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/errors-annex-i-quick-reference)

Analysis: There are indeed errors in the Annex.

Proposal: Verify and correct.

### 27. Order of attributes in class diagram dct:PeriodOfTime

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat\\_application\\_profile/issue/order-attributes-class-diagram-dctperiodoftime](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/issue/order-attributes-class-diagram-dctperiodoftime)

Analysis: Sequence startDate, endDate looks indeed more logical.

Proposal: Change as suggested.