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**BReg-DCAT-AP**

*ISA2 Action 2016.28: Access to Base Registries*

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| Specific Contract n° 157 under Framework Contract n° DI/07624 - ABCIV Lot 3 |

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# Introduction

This document represents the deliverable under Task-02 in the framework of the specific contract n°157 under ABCIV-Lot 3 regarding the project on the continuation of an action running under the ISA² programme (Action 2016.28), namely Access to Base Registries (ABR).

The overall purpose of the aforementioned task is to elaboration a draft of the specification of a registry of registries and define the aspects and elements to be served for the creation of potential Registry of Registries at European level in the future.

This deliverable’s purpose is to elaborate the draft specification of **BRegDCAT-AP**, an extension of the DCAT application profile for data portals in Europe (DCAT-AP) for describing base registries of Member States (MS), that will serve with specifications and tools to MS to create their own registries of registries.

With regard to the elaboration of this deliverable, the project team will perform the following activities:

* Create an ABR working group (WG) composed of MS representatives and other semantics experts and manage WG meetings to discuss the specification;
* Draft an application profile of the DCAT to describe the data contained in base registries (and registries of registries), implementing relevant suggestions and proposals from WG members, incorporating comments.

The work is based on the following:

* Relevant aspects from the existing documentation on Action 2016.28;
* Alignment with the existing similar initiatives on the European Union level;
* Best practices and challenges that MS face in creation of their registries of registries;
* Shared challenges and other feedback from the MS representatives and other ABR working group (WG) members on other webinars aiming exchange of best practices.

The outcome of the deliverable, on the long-term, will serve to fulfil one of the goals of a European Registry of Base Registries (ERBR), namely to provide a full interconnection of base registries at the European level.’

## Context

One of the targets of the **Digital Single Market[[1]](#footnote-2)** is to deliver cross-border and cross-sector public services in Europe. So, in order to succeed with this objective, Member State’s base registries need to be interconnected. **Base registries** are trusted and reliable sources of basic information on data items such as citizens, corporations, vehicles, driver licenses, buildings, and locations. They are the cornerstone of public services and essential entities for public administration management.

The interoperability of base registries is key for the development of the **EU** **Single Digital Gateway[[2]](#footnote-3)** (or just Gateway), a platform that aims to be the single point of access to public EU Member State’s services, facilitating digital public services among public administrations and citizens. The implementation of the Gateway relies on **the once-only principle**, ensuring data that is submitted once to at least one EU Member State, could be reused by any public authority across the EU.

The development of a **European Registry of Base Registries (ERBR)**, a pan-European registry of base registries, will improve the interoperability of individual base registries and harmonise the existing registries of base registries, enabling a one-stop-platform for citizens, business and public bodies to access and manage base registries across the European Union and across different domains. The ERBR development initiative works in close liaison with **The Once-Only Principle Project (TOOP)[[3]](#footnote-4),** launched by the European Commission in 2017 with the objective of exploring and demonstrating the once-only principle across borders. In particular, TOOP is focused on creating an innovative pan-European federated architecture for interacting with existing national infrastructures, connecting base registries and eGovernment platforms in different countries. As TOOP is based on the reuse of existing EU interoperability Frameworks, such as the **European Interoperability Reference Architecture (EIRA)[[4]](#footnote-5)**, the **European Interoperability Framework (EIF)[[5]](#footnote-6)**, and **Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)[[6]](#footnote-7)**, an **ERBR** may contribute to this project of interoperability development.

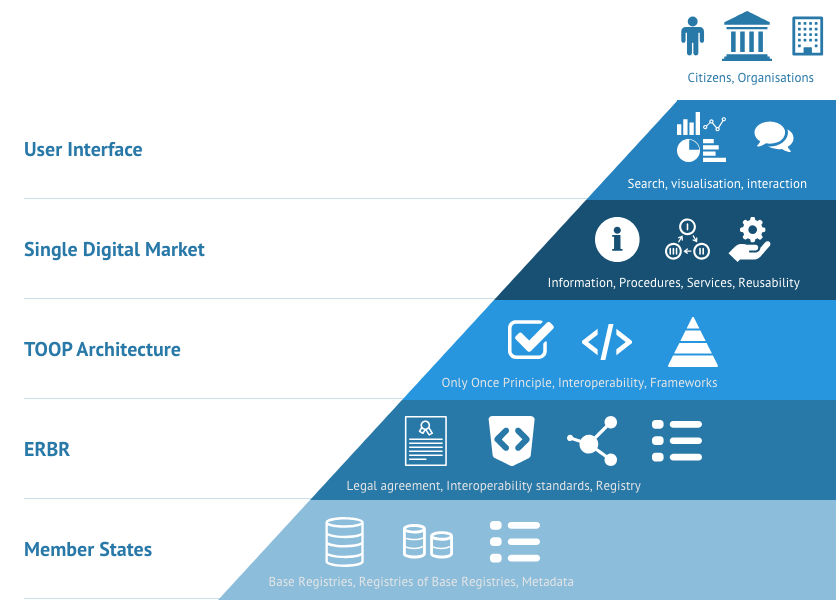


Fig. 1. ERBR Framework Stack

The development of the ERBR requires defining a **data model** to support the description of Base Registries and Registries of Base Registries. This abstract model will drive the creation of a subsequent vocabulary to represent registries, registries of registries and the ERBR itself. This vocabulary, along with a proper set of taxonomies and value schemas, would be a key component to share information between national registries and the ERBR.

## DCAT-AP and ISA2 Core Vocabularies

Both, the data model and the vocabulary must be based on recognised schemes and ontologies such as the **ISA2 Core Vocabularies[[7]](#footnote-8)**, **DCAT[[8]](#footnote-9)** (W3C Data Catalogue Vocabulary), **EUROVOC[[9]](#footnote-10)**, Publication Office’s **MDR**[[10]](#footnote-11) (Metadata Registry), **NUTS[[11]](#footnote-12)**(Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) and **ELI[[12]](#footnote-13)** (European Legislation Identifier).

Since the ERBR will manage registries —i.e., catalogues of data and catalogues of catalogues—, the development of the vocabulary will be based on the W3C DCAT specification, a standard to describe data catalogues and their content. More specifically, the ERBR will extend **DCAT-AP** (DCAT Application Profile for Data Portals in Europe)[[13]](#footnote-14), a technical specification that ISA2 developed for describing public sector datasets in order to achieve a successful exchange of metadata among data portals in Europe. Thus, a new **DCAT Application profile for base registries in Europe** (**BRegDCAT-AP**) will be created, as a DCAT-AP extension for describing base registries, their contents, and the services they provide.

This deliverable defines the **BRegDCAT-AP** specification. Its application will enable cross-border interoperability between Base Registries and Registries of Base Registries, defining a semantic model to describe registries and their contents, facilitating data discovery and exchange of data, reducing redundancy by supporting the Once-Only principle. This set of recommendations will enable a mechanism for the update of EU base registries and their content, reducing technical, organizational and multilingual barriers.

The Application Profile specified in this document is based on the specification of the latest of DCAT Application Profile for data portals in Europe, in concrete version 1.2, issued on 8th November 2018. Likewise the original version of DCAT-AP, BReg-DCAT-AP does not cover implementation issues like mechanisms for exchange of data and expected behaviour of systems implementing the Application Profile.

The Application Profile is intended to facilitate data exchange and therefore the vocabulary of classes and properties defined in this document is only relevant for the data to be exchanged; there are no requirements for communicating systems to implement specific technical environments. The only requirement is that the systems can export and import data in RDF[[14]](#footnote-15), in any format and serialization, in conformance with this Application Profile.

## Terminology used in the DCAT Application Profile

An **Application Profile** is a specification that re-uses terms from one or more base standards, adding more specificity by identifying mandatory, recommended and optional elements to be used for a particular application, in this case the definition of **Base Registries and Registries of Base Registries**, as well as recommendations for controlled vocabularies to be used.

A **Resource** represents an individual item in a catalogue, a parent abstract concept of **Dataset**, **Data Service** and **Catalogue**. A **Dataset** is a collection of data, published or curated by a single source, and available for access or download in one or more formats. Datasets of this application profile will be primarily collections of Master Data, catalogued on Base Registries. A **Data Service** represents a collection of operations accessible through an interface that provide access to one or more datasets or data processing functions.

A **Base Registry** is a Web-based system that contains an inventory of descriptions of **Master datasets** and provides services enabling discovery and re-use of the datasets. The mandate of a Base Registry is given by specific legislation. At EU level, National Registers aggregates information about Base Registries in Registries of Base Registries. A Base Registry is a **Catalogue** of collections of metadata about datasets or data services.

In the following sections, classes and properties of the vocabulary are classified as ‘mandatory’, ‘recommended’ and ‘optional’, according to the following meaning:

**Classes:**

* **Mandatory**: a receiver of data must be able to process information about instances of the class; a sender of data *must* provide information about instances of the class.
* **Recommended**: 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; a receiver of data must be able to process information about instances of the class.
* **Optional**: a receiver must be able to process information about instances of the class; a sender *may* provide the information but is not obliged to do so.

**Properties:**

* **Mandatory**: a receiver *must* be able to process the information for that property; a sender *must* provide the information for that property.
* **Recommended**: a receiver *must* be able to process the information for that property; a sender *should* provide the information for that property if it is available.
* **Optional**: a receiver *must* be able to process the information for that property; a sender *may* provide the information for that property but is not obliged to do so.

The meaning of the terms ***must***, ***should***and ***may***in this document, is compliant with the specifications of RFC 2119[[15]](#footnote-16): ***must*** mean that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification; ***should***, or the adjective *recommended*, mean that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course; and ***may***, or the adjective *optional*, mean that an item is truly optional.

In the given context, the term "processing" means that receivers accept incoming data and transparently provide these data to applications and services. It does neither imply nor prescribe what applications and services finally do with the data (parse, convert, list, store, make searchable, display to users, etc.).

The Application Profile reuses terms from various recognised standard schemas and ontologies. In order to simplify the notation, this specification will refer to **namespaces** that represents the following vocabularies and ontologies:

| Prefix | Namespace | RDF Vocabulary |
| --- | --- | --- |
| adms | http://www.w3.org/ns/adms# | Asset Description Metadata Schema |
| cnt | http://www.w3.org/2011/content# | Representing Content in RDF 1.0 |
| cv | http://data.europa.eu/m8g/ | Core Vocabulary |
| cpsv | http://purl.org/vocab/cpsv# | Core Public Service Vocabulary |
| dc | http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/ | Dublin Core Metadata Element Set, Version 1.1 |
| dcat | http://www.w3.org/ns/dcat# | Data Catalog Vocabulary |
| dct | http://purl.org/dc/terms/ | DCMI Metadata Terms |
| dctype | http://purl.org/dc/dcmitype/ | DCMI Type Vocabulary |
| eli | http://data.europa.eu/eli/ontology# | European Legislation Identifier |
| foaf | http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/ | FOAF Vocabulary |
| locn | http://www.w3.org/ns/locn# | ISA Programme Core Location Vocabulary |
| owl | http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl# | OWL Web Ontology Language |
| prov | http://www.w3.org/ns/prov# | PROV-O: The PROV Ontology |
| rdf | http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns# | Resource Description Framework (RDF): Concepts and Abstract Syntax |
| rdfs | http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema# | RDF Vocabulary Description Language 1.0: RDF Schema |
| schema | http://schema.org/ | schema.org |
| skos | http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core# | SKOS Simple Knowledge Organization System - Reference |
| vcard | http://www.w3.org/2006/vcard/ns# | vCard Ontology |
| xsd | http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema# | XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes Second Edition |

# Overview of Classes and Properties

The following diagram represents the main classes and properties in UML format:

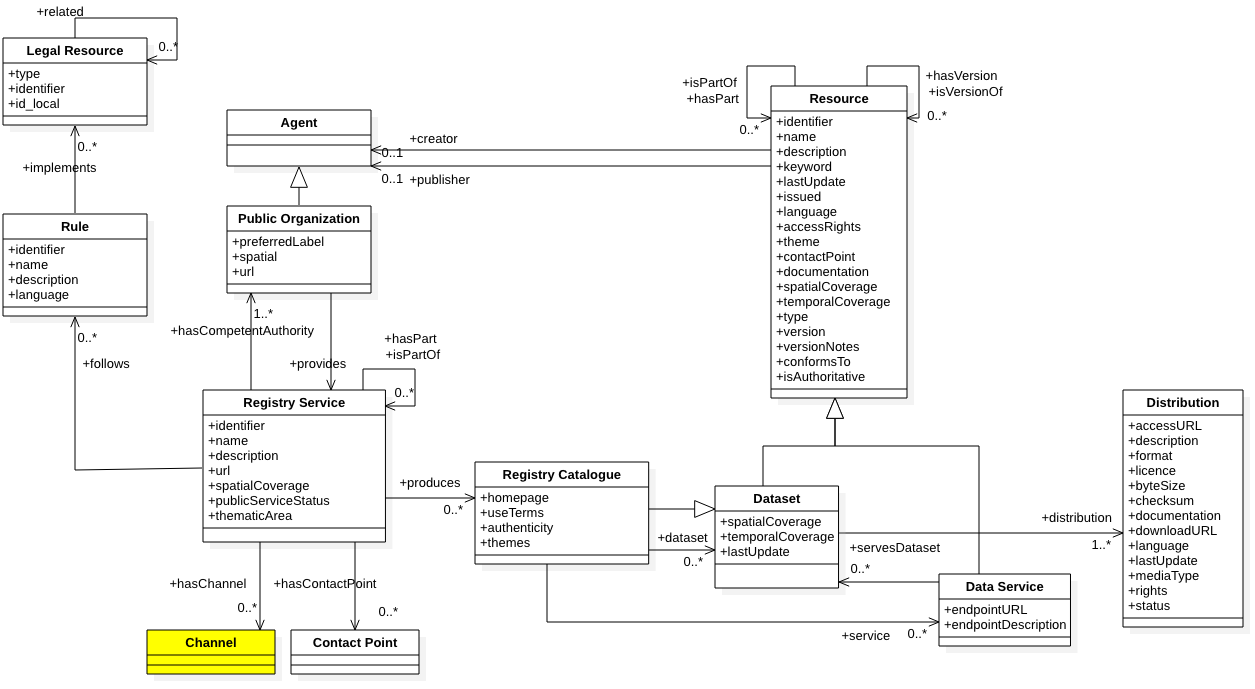


Fig. 2. UML Class Diagram

# Application Profile Classes

## Mandatory Classes

| Class name | Usage note for the Application Profile | URI | Reference |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Agent | An entity that is associated with Public Services, the Registries and/or Datasets. | foaf:Agent | [http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/#term\_Agent](http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/#_blank) |
| Data Service | A data service is a collection of operations accessible through an interface (API) that provide access to one or more datasets or data processing functions. | dcat:DataService | https://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-dcat-2/#Class:Data\_Service |
| Dataset | A conceptual entity that represents the information managed and/or published by the Registry Service. | dcat:Dataset | https://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-dcat-2/#Class:Dataset |
| Literal | A literal value such as a text string or a integer; Literals may be typed, e.g. as a date according to xsd:date. Literals that contain human-readable text have an optional language tag as defined by BCP 47[[16]](#footnote-17). | rdfs:Literal | [http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-concepts/#section-Literals](http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-concepts/#_blank) |
| Public Organization | A Public Organization is the responsible Agent for the delivery of a Public Service. This specification uses the class from the Core Public Organisation Vocabulary[[17]](#footnote-18), based also on the W3C Organization Ontology[[18]](#footnote-19). | cv:PublicOrganization | <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/core-public-service-vocabulary>  [http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-org/](http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-org/" \t "_top) |
| Registry Catalogue | A catalogue or repository that lists the Datasets (Master Data and other resources) managed and provided by a Base Registry Service. It is the output produced by a Public Service. | dcat:Catalog  cv:Output | <http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/#class-catalog>  <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/core-public-service-vocabulary> |
| Registry Service | A Registry Service is a public service that creates, maintains and/or manages Base Registries or a Registry of Base Registries. This service, provided by public administrations, or by other organisations on their behalf, stores and provides basic information on authoritative data items such as people, companies, vehicles, licences, buildings, locations and roads. | cpsv:PublicService | <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/core-public-service-vocabulary> |
| (Data) Resource | A Resource represents an individual item in a catalogue. This class is not intended to be used directly, but is the parent class of Dataset, Data Service and Registry Catalogue. Resource is effectively an extension point for defining a catalogue of any kind of resource. | dcat:Resource | <https://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-dcat-2/#Class:Resource> |

## Recommended Classes

| Class name | Usage note for the Application Profile | URI | Reference |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Distribution | A physical embodiment of the Dataset in a particular format accessible through specific means (e.g., file download, web service request, etc.). | dcat:Distribution | [http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/#class-distribution](http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/" \l "class-distribution" \t "_top) |
| Legal Resource | A Legal Resource refers to legislation, policy or policies that lie behind the Rules that defines the governance of a Base Registry Service. Legal Resource descriptions will be represented through the ELI ontology. | eli:LegalResource | <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/8159b75d-5efc-11e8-ab9c-01aa75ed71a1> |
| Licence document | A legal document giving official permission to do something with a resource. | dct:LicenseDocument | [http://dublincore.org/documents/2012/06/14/dcmi-terms/?v=terms#LicenseDocument](http://dublincore.org/documents/2012/06/14/dcmi-terms/?v=terms" \l "LicenseDocument" \t "_top) |
| Rule | A Rule is a document that sets out the specific guidelines or procedures followed by the Base Registry. It may include the requirements of the information managed and the services provided by the Base Registry. | cpsv:Rule | <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/core-public-service-vocabulary> |
| Theme | Thematic area, subject of a Base Registry, a Catalogue and/or a Dataset. | skos:Concept | <http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/#class-category-and-category-scheme> |
| Thematic scheme | A taxonomy, or other type of controlled vocabulary, in which the Themes are defined. | skos:ConceptScheme | [http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/#class-category-and-category-scheme](http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/" \l "class-category-and-category-scheme" \t "_top) |

## Optional Classes

| Class name | Usage note for the Application Profile | URI | Reference |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Catalogue Record | A description of a Dataset’s entry in the Catalogue. | dcat:CatalogRecord | [http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/#class-catalog-record](http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-vocab-dcat-20130312/" \l "class-catalog-record" \t "_top) |
| Document | A textual resource intended for human consumption that contains information, e.g. a web page about a Dataset. | foaf:Document | [http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/#term\_Document](http://xmlns.com/foaf/spec/" \l "term_Document" \t "_top) |
| Frequency | A rate at which something recurs, e.g. the publication of a Dataset. | dct:Frequency | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-Frequency](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-Frequency" \t "_top) |
| Identifier | An identifier in a particular context, consisting of the string that is the identifier; an optional identifier for the identifier scheme; an optional identifier for the version of the identifier scheme; an optional identifier for the agency that manages the identifier scheme | adms:Identifier | [http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-adms/#identifier](http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-adms/" \l "identifier" \t "_top) |
| Kind | A description following the vCard specification, e.g. to provide telephone number and e-mail address for a contact point. Note that the class Kind is the parent class for the four explicit types of vCards (Individual, Organization, Location, Group). | vcard:Kind | [http://www.w3.org/TR/2014/NOTE-vcard-rdf-20140522/#d4e181](http://www.w3.org/TR/2014/NOTE-vcard-rdf-20140522/" \l "d4e181" \t "_top) |
| Linguistic system | A system of signs, symbols, sounds, gestures, or rules used in communication, e.g. a language | dct:LinguisticSystem | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-LinguisticSystem](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-LinguisticSystem" \t "_top) |
| Location | A spatial region or named place. It can be represented using a controlled vocabulary or with geographic coordinates. In the latter case, the use of the Core Location Vocabulary[[19]](#footnote-20) is recommended, following the approach described in the GeoDCAT-AP specification. | dct:Location | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-Location](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-Location" \t "_top) |
| Media type or extent | A media type or extent, e.g. the format of a computer file | dct:MediaTypeOrExtent | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-MediaTypeOrExtent](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-MediaTypeOrExtent" \t "_top) |
| Period of time | An interval of time that is named or defined by its start and end dates. | dct:PeriodOfTime | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-PeriodOfTime](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-PeriodOfTime" \t "_top) |
| Publisher type | A type of organisation that acts as a publisher | skos:Concept | [http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-adms/#dcterms-type](http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-adms/" \l "dcterms-type" \t "_top) |
| Rights statement | A statement about the intellectual property rights (IPR) held in or over a resource, a legal document giving official permission to do something with a resource, or a statement about access rights. | dct:RightsStatement | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-RightsStatement](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-RightsStatement" \t "_top) |
| Standard | A standard or other specification to which a Dataset or Distribution conforms | dct:Standard | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-Standard](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-Standard" \t "_top) |
| Status | An indication of the maturity of a Distribution or the type of change of a Catalogue Record. | skos:Concept | [http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-adms/#status](http://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-adms/" \l "status" \t "_top) |
| Provenance Statement | A statement of any changes in ownership and custody of a resource since its creation that are significant for its authenticity, integrity, and interpretation | dct:ProvenanceStatement | [http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/#terms-ProvenanceStatement](http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/" \l "terms-ProvenanceStatement" \t "_top) |

# Application Profile Properties per Class

## Data Service

Data Service is a sub-class of Resource.

Mandatory properties for DataService

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| description | dct:description | rdfs:Literal | This property contains descriptive textual information about the Data Service. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |
| endpoint URL | dcat:endpointURL | rdfs:Resource | This property indicates the root location or primary endpoint of a Data Service (an IRI). | 1 |
| endpoint URL | dcat:endpointDescription | rdfs:Resource | This property describes the services available via end-points, including their operations, parameters etc. | 1..n |
| name | dct:title | rdfs:Literal | This property refers to the descriptive title of a Data Service. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |

Recommended properties for DataService

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| creator | dct:creator | foaf:Agent | This property contains the entity responsible for producing the Data Service. | 0..1 |
| contact point | dcat:contactPoint | vcard:Kind | This property includes contact information to provide feedback on a Data Service. | 0..n |
| isAuthoritative | isAuthoritative | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates if a data service is produced and/or managed by a competent authority. Values must be of xsd:boolean type. | 0..1 |
| keyword | dcat:keyword | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a free-text keyword that describes a Data Service. This property may be repeated in case there are several tags associated. | 0..n |
| publisher | dct:publisher | foaf:Agent | This property refers to an entity, usually a Public Organization, which makes the Data Service available. | 0..1 |
| serves dataset | dcat:servesDataset | dcat:Dataset | This property refers to the data that a data service can distribute. | 0..n |
| theme | dcat:theme | skos:Concept | This property indicates a category of a Data Service. Multiple themes may be associated. | 0..n |

Optional properties for DataService

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| access rights | dct:accessRights | dct:RightsStatement | This property indicates the level of openness of the data service (i.e., if it has access restrictions or it is public). Values of this property must belong to a controlled vocabulary representing the values: non public, public, and restricted. | 0..1 |
| accrual periodicity | dct:accrualPeriodicity | dct:Frequency | This property refers to the frequency at which a Data Service is updated. | 0..1 |
| conforms to | dct:conformsTo | dct:Standard | This property indicates a compliance rule or standard that inspires the management of a Data Service. | 0..n |
| documentation | foaf:page | foaf:Document | This property links to a document with information about a Data Service. | 0..n |
| has version | dct:hasVersion | dcat:Dataset | This property refers to a Dataset that is a version of the described Data Service. | 0..n |
| identifier | dct:identifier | rdfs:Literal | This property contains an internal identifier for the Data Service. There may be several identifiers, such as MAST/ADS[[20]](#footnote-21), DataCite, DOI[[21]](#footnote-22), EZID[[22]](#footnote-23) or W3ID[[23]](#footnote-24). | 0..n |
| is version of | dct:isVersionOf | dcat:Dataset | This property refers to a Data Service of which the described Data Service is a version. | 0..n |
| language | dct:language | dct:LinguisticSystem | This property indicates the language in which the Data Service is expressed. This property may be repeated in case there are different languages. | 0..n |
| last update | dct:modified | rdfs:Literal | This property contains the latest modification date of a Data Service. This property should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| provenance | dct:provenance | dct:ProvenanceStatement | This property specifies information about the origin of a Data Service. | 0..n |
| related resource | dct:relation | rdfs:Resource | This property refers to a related resource. | 0..n |
| release date | dct:issued | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates the issuance date of the Data Service. It should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| version | owl:versionInfo | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a version number or other information about the version of the Data Service. | 0..1 |
| version notes | adms:versionNotes | rdfs:Literal | This property refers to a textual description on the specific features of a version of the Data Service. This property should be repeated in case there are texts in different languages. | 0..n |

## Dataset

Dataset is a sub-class of Resource.

Mandatory properties for Dataset

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| description | dct:description | rdfs:Literal | This property contains descriptive textual information about the Dataset. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |
| name | dct:title | rdfs:Literal | This property refers to the descriptive title of a Dataset. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |

Recommended properties for Dataset

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| contact point | dcat:contactPoint | vcard:Kind | This property includes contact information to provide feedback on a Dataset. | 0..n |
| creator | dct:creator | foaf:Agent | This property contains the entity responsible for producing the Dataset. | 0..1 |
| dataset distribution | dcat:distribution | dcat:Distribution | This property refers to a Distribution of a Dataset. | 0..n |
| isAuthoritative | isAuthoritative | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates if a dataset is produced and/or accepted by a competent authority. Values must be of xsd:boolean type. | 0..1 |
| keyword | dcat:keyword | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a free-text keyword that describes a Dataset. This property may be repeated in case there are several tags associated. | 0..n |
| publisher | dct:publisher | foaf:Agent | This property refers to an entity, usually a Public Organization, which makes the Dataset available. | 0..1 |
| theme | dcat:theme | skos:Concept | This property indicates a category of a Dataset. Multiple themes may be associated. | 0..n |

Optional properties for Dataset

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| access rights | dct:accessRights | dct:RightsStatement | This property indicates the level of openness of the data (i.e., if it has access restrictions or it is public). Values of this property must belong to a controlled vocabulary representing the values: non public, public, and restricted. | 0..1 |
| accrual periodicity | dct:accrualPeriodicity | dct:Frequency | This property refers to the frequency at which a Dataset is updated. | 0..1 |
| conforms to | dct:conformsTo | dct:Standard | This property indicates a compliance rule or standard that inspires the management of a Dataset. | 0..n |
| documentation | foaf:page | foaf:Document | This property links to a document with information about a Dataset. | 0..n |
| has version | dct:hasVersion | dcat:Dataset | This property refers to a Dataset that is a version of the described Dataset. | 0..n |
| identifier | dct:identifier | rdfs:Literal | This property contains an internal identifier for the Dataset. There may be several identifiers, such as MAST/ADS[[24]](#footnote-25), DataCite, DOI[[25]](#footnote-26), EZID[[26]](#footnote-27) or W3ID[[27]](#footnote-28). | 0..n |
| is version of | dct:isVersionOf | dcat:Dataset | This property refers to a Dataset of which the described Dataset is a version. | 0..n |
| language | dct:language | dct:LinguisticSystem | This property indicates the language in which the Dataset is expressed. This property may be repeated in case there are different languages. | 0..n |
| last update | dct:modified | rdfs:Literal | This property contains the latest modification date of a Dataset. This property should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| provenance | dct:provenance | dct:ProvenanceStatement | This property specifies information about the origin of a Dataset. | 0..n |
| related resource | dct:relation | rdfs:Resource | This property refers to a related resource. | 0..n |
| release date | dct:issued | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates the issuance date of the Dataset. It should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| spatial coverage | dct:spatial | dct:Location | This property indicates an administrative or geographic area that is covered by the Dataset. | 0..n |
| temporal coverage | dct:temporal | dct:PeriodOfTime | This property indicates a temporal period that is covered by a Dataset (e.g., in temporal series data). | 0..n |
| type | dct:type | skos:Concept | This property refers to the type of the Dataset. It must use a controlled vocabulary that offers the type *Master Data* to represent specific data of Base Repositories. | 0..1 |
| version | owl:versionInfo | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a version number or other information about the version of the Dataset. | 0..1 |
| version notes | adms:versionNotes | rdfs:Literal | This property refers to a textual description on the specific features of a version of the Dataset. This property should be repeated in case there are texts in different languages. | 0..n |

## Distribution

Mandatory properties for Distribution

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| access URL | dcat:accessURL | rdfs:Resource | This property refers to a URL that enables the access to a Dataset Distribution. The access URL may contain information to access/fetch the data. | 1..n |

Recommended properties for Distribution

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| description | dct:description | rdfs:Literal | This property specifies a descriptive text informing about the Distribution. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 0..n |
| format | dct:format | dct:MediaTypeOrExtent | This property refers to the format of the Distribution data. | 0..1 |
| licence | dct:license | dct:LicenseDocument | This property refers to a licence under which the Distribution is made available. It may include the access and reuse rights associated. | 0..1 |

Optional properties for Distribution

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| byte size | dcat:byteSize | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates the size of a Distribution in bytes. It must be typed as xsd:decimal. | 0..1 |
| checksum | spdx:checksum | spdx:Checksum | This property provides a mechanism to verify the integrity of the Distribution content. | 0..1 |
| documentation | foaf:page | foaf:Document | This property links a document with information about a Distribution. | 0..n |
| download URL | dcat:downloadURL | rdfs:Resource | This property contains a URL that is a direct link to a downloadable file. | 0..n |
| issued | dct:issued | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates the date when the Distribution was the first time issued. | 0..1 |
| language | dct:language | dct:LinguisticSystem | This property refers to a language used in the Distribution. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 0..n |
| last update | dct:modified | rdfs:Literal | This property contains the most recent date on which the Distribution was changed or modified. | 0..1 |
| media type | dcat:mediaType | dct:MediaTypeOrExtent | This property indicates the media type of the Distribution as defined in the IANA controlled vocabulary. | 0..1 |
| name | dct:title | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a descriptive title of the Distribution. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 0..n |
| rights | dct:rights | dct:RightsStatement | This property refers to an informative statement that set out the access and management rights of the Distribution. | 0..1 |
| status | adms:status | skos:Concept | This property indicates the maturity level of the Distribution. | 0..1 |

## Registry Catalogue

Registry Catalogue is a sub-class of Dataset.

Mandatory properties for Registry Catalogue

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| dataset | dcat:dataset | dcat:Dataset | This property links a Dataset with the Registry Catalogue that is part of. | 1..n |
| description | dct:description | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a textual description of a Registry Catalogue. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |
| name | dct:title | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a descriptive name of the Registry Catalogue. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |
| publisher | dct:publisher | foaf:Agent | This property refers to an agent (organisation or person) that makes the Catalogue available and accessible. | 1..1 |
| service | dcat:service | dcat:DataService | This property links a Data Service with the Registry Catalogue that is part of. | 0..n |

Recommended properties for Registry Catalogue

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| authenticity | dct:provenance | dct:ProvenanceStatement | This property indicates a statement of the authenticity and the integrity of the Datasets contained a Registry Catalogue. | 0..n |
| creator | dct:creator | foaf:Agent | This property contains the entity responsible for producing the Catalogue. | 0..1 |
| homepage | foaf:homepage | foaf:Document | This property refers to a landing page as entry point for a Registry Catalogue. | 0..1 |
| isAuthoritative | isAuthoritative | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates if a catalogue is produced, managed and/or accepted by a competent authority. Values must be of xsd:boolean type. | 0..1 |
| language | dct:language | dct:LinguisticSystem | This property specifies the language used in a catalogue to describe textual metadata of the Datasets in a Registry Catalogue. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 0..n |
| release date | dct:issued | rdfs:Literal | This property contains the date of first publication of a Registry Catalogue. This property should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| themes | dcat:themeTaxonomy | skos:ConceptScheme | This property refers to a knowledge organization system (i.e., thesaurus, taxonomy) used to classify Datasets in a Registry Catalogue. | 0..n |
| last update | dct:modified | rdfs:Literal | This property contains the most recent date on which the Registry Catalogue was modified. This property should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |

Optional properties for Registry Catalogue

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| accrual periodicity | dct:accrualPeriodicity | dct:Frequency | This property indicates the frequency at which a Registry Catalogue is updated with new/edited Datasets. | 0..1 |
| has part | dct:hasPart | dcat:Catalog | This property links a Registry Catalogue that is part of the described one. | 0..n |
| is part of | dct:isPartOf | dcat:Catalog | This property refers to a Registry Catalogue in which the described Registry Catalogue is physically or logically included. | 0..n |
| use terms | dct:rights | dct:RightsStatement | This property includes a statement that specifies usage rights of the Registry Catalogue. | 0..1 |
| spatial coverage | dct:spatial | dct:Location | This property indicates a geographical/administrative area that is covered by a Registry Catalogue. This property may be repeated in case there are several resources involved. | 0..n |

## Registry Service

Mandatory properties for Registry Service

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| description | dct:description | rdfs:Literal | This property is used to describe a Registry Service using natural text. This property may be repeated in case of having descriptions in multiple languages. | 1..n |
| has competent authority | cv:hasCompetentAuthority | cv:PublicOrganization | This property indicates a body in charge of running the Registry Service.[[28]](#footnote-29) | 1..n |
| identifier | dct:identifier | Text | This property contains a formal identification of a Registry Service. | 1..1 |
| name | dct:title | Text | This property represents the official name of a Registry Service. | 1..1 |

Recommended properties for Registry Service

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| data catalogue | cpsv:produces | cv:Output | This property defines the output of the service as a catalogue of datasets available and managed by a Base Registry Service. The data catalogue must be also described as a dcat:Catalog. | 0..n |
| has part | dct:hasPart | cpsv:PublicService | This property indicates a related Registry Service that is included either physically or logically in the described resource. This relation is used to describe Registries of Base Registries | 0..n |
| is part of | dct:isPartOf | cpsv:PublicService | This property indicates a related Registry Service in which is included. This property is the inverse of dct:hasPart. | 0..n |
| thematic area | cv:thematicArea | skos:Concept | This property represents the primary topic(s) of a Registry, according to a defined classification schema. | 0..n |
| type | dct:type | skos:Concept | This property indicates the type of a Registry Service, as described in a controlled set of concepts (e.g., Base Registry and Registry of Base Registries). | 0..n |
| spatial coverage | dct:spatial | dct:Location | This property contains the geographic or administrative region covered by a Registry Service. | 0..n |
| status | adms:status | skos:Concept | This property specifies the status of the Registry Service (i.e., active, inactive, under development etc.) according to a predefined vocabulary. | 0..1 |
| hasChannel | cv:hasChannel | cv:Channel | This property links to a Channel through which an Agent provides, uses or otherwise interacts with the Public Service, such as an online service, phone number or office URL to the main homepage of a Registry Service. | 0..n |

Optional properties for Registry Service

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| follows | cpsv:follows | cpsv:Rule | This property links a Registry Service to the Rule(s) under which it operates. | 0..n |
| has contact point | cv:hasContactPoint | schema:ContactPoint | This property refers to the point of contact in a Registry Service. This contact information should be relevant to the Registry Service that may not be the same as contact information for the Competent Authority. | 0..n |

## Resource

Mandatory properties for Resource

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| description | dct:description | rdfs:Literal | This property contains descriptive textual information about the Resource. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |
| name | dct:title | rdfs:Literal | This property refers to the descriptive title of a Resource. This property should be repeated in case there are various versions of the text in different languages. | 1..n |

Recommended properties for Resource

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| contact point | dcat:contactPoint | vcard:Kind | This property includes contact information to provide feedback on a Dataset. | 0..n |
| creator | dct:creator | foaf:Agent | This property contains the entity responsible for producing the resource. | 0..1 |
| dataset distribution | dcat:distribution | dcat:Distribution | This property refers to a Distribution of a Dataset. | 0..n |
| isAuthoritative | isAuthoritative | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates if a resource is produced, managed and/or accepted by a competent authority. Values must be of xsd:boolean type. | 0..1 |
| keyword | dcat:keyword | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a free-text keyword that describes a Dataset. This property may be repeated in case there are several tags associated. | 0..n |
| publisher | dct:publisher | foaf:Agent | This property refers to an entity, usually a Public Organization, which makes the Dataset available. | 0..1 |
| theme | dcat:theme | skos:Concept | This property indicates a category of a Dataset. Multiple themes may be associated. | 0..n |

Optional properties for Resource

| Property | URI | Range | Usage note | Cardinality |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| access rights | dct:accessRights | dct:RightsStatement | This property indicates the level of openness of the data (i.e., if it has access restrictions or it is public). Values of this property must belong to a controlled vocabulary representing the values: non public, public, and restricted. | 0..1 |
| accrual periodicity | dct:accrualPeriodicity | dct:Frequency | This property refers to the frequency at which a Dataset is updated. | 0..1 |
| conforms to | dct:conformsTo | dct:Standard | This property indicates a compliance rule or standard that inspires the management of a Dataset. | 0..n |
| documentation | foaf:page | foaf:Document | This property links to a document with information about a Dataset. | 0..n |
| has version | dct:hasVersion | dcat:Resource | This property refers to a Dataset that is a version of the described Dataset. | 0..n |
| has part | dct:hasPart | dcat:Resource | This property links a Resource that is part of the described one. | 0..n |
| identifier | dct:identifier | rdfs:Literal | This property contains an internal identifier for the Dataset. There may be several identifiers, such as MAST/ADS[[29]](#footnote-30), DataCite, DOI[[30]](#footnote-31), EZID[[31]](#footnote-32) or W3ID[[32]](#footnote-33). | 0..n |
| is part of | dct:isPartOf | dcat:Resource | This property refers to a Resource in which the described Resource is physically or logically included. | 0..n |
| is version of | dct:isVersionOf | dcat:Resource | This property refers to a Dataset of which the described Dataset is a version. | 0..n |
| language | dct:language | dct:LinguisticSystem | This property indicates the language in which the Dataset is expressed. This property may be repeated in case there are different languages. | 0..n |
| last update | dct:modified | rdfs:Literal | This property contains the latest modification date of a Dataset. This property should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| provenance | dct:provenance | dct:ProvenanceStatement | This property specifies information about the origin of a Dataset. | 0..n |
| related resource | dct:relation | rdfs:Resource | This property refers to a related resource. | 0..n |
| release date | dct:issued | rdfs:Literal | This property indicates the issuance date of the Dataset. It should be typed as xsd:date or xsd:dateTime. | 0..1 |
| type | dct:type | skos:Concept | This property refers to the type of the Dataset. It must use a controlled vocabulary that offers the type *Master Data* to represent specific data of Base Repositories. | 0..1 |
| version | owl:versionInfo | rdfs:Literal | This property contains a version number or other information about the version of the Dataset. | 0..1 |
| version notes | adms:versionNotes | rdfs:Literal | This property refers to a textual description on the specific features of a version of the Dataset. This property should be repeated in case there are texts in different languages. | 0..n |

# Controlled Vocabularies

List of controlled Vocabularies, including EUROVOC, ADMS, MDR, IANA.

| Property URI | Used in Class | Vocabulary name | Vocabulary URI | Usage note |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| cv:thematicArea | Registry Service | EuroVoc | <http://publications.europa.eu/resource/dataset/eurovoc> | EuroVoc will be used at any hierarchical level, in a flexible way, to describe the thematic area of a service. |
| dcat:theme | Resource, Dataset, Data Service | EuroVoc | <http://publications.europa.eu/resource/dataset/eurovoc> | EuroVoc will be used at any hierarchical level, in a flexible way, to describe the theme of a resource, dataset or data service. |
| dcat:theme | Resource, Dataset, Data Service | Data Theme Taxonomy NAL | <http://publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/data-theme> | The EU Publications Office Data Theme NAL is used to describe the topic of resources, datasets and data services. |
| dcat:themeTaxonomy | Registry Catalogue | EuroVoc | <http://publications.europa.eu/resource/dataset/eurovoc> | The Registry Catalogue must specify the URI to the thesaurus that defines the potential themes of its resources. |
| dcat:themeTaxonomy | Registry Catalogue | Data Theme Taxonomy NAL | <http://publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/data-theme> | The Registry Catalogue must specify the URI to the taxonomy that defines the potential themes of its resources. |
|  |  |  |  |  |

1. <https://ec.europa.eu/commission/priorities/digital-single-market_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/single-digital-gateway_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. <http://www.toop.eu> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/eira> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. <https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/eif> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. <https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/page/core-vocabularies> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. <https://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-dcat/> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. <http://eurovoc.europa.eu> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. <http://publications.europa.eu/mdr/authority/> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/background> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli-register/about.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/dcat-application-profile-data-portals-europe> [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. <http://www.w3.org/RDF/> [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. <https://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt> [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/bcp/bcp47.txt> [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/solution/core-public-organisation-vocabulary/> [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. <https://www.w3.org/TR/vocab-org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/core_location/description> [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. <http://archive.stsci.edu/pub_dsn.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. <http://www.doi.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. <http://n2t.net/ezid> [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. <https://w3id.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. <http://archive.stsci.edu/pub_dsn.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. <http://www.doi.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. <http://n2t.net/ezid> [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. <https://w3id.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. The term Competent Authority is defined in the Services Directive (2006/123/EC) as: “Any body or authority which has a supervisory or regulatory role in a Member State in relation to service activities, including, in particular, administrative authorities, including courts acting as such, professional bodies, and those professional associations or other professional organisations which, in the exercise of their legal autonomy, regulate in a collective manner access to service activities or the exercise thereof”. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. <http://archive.stsci.edu/pub_dsn.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. <http://www.doi.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
31. <http://n2t.net/ezid> [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
32. <https://w3id.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-33)