



**GeoDCAT Application Profile for Data Portals in  
Europe**

**WORKING GROUP**

**VIRTUAL MEETING 1**

**2015-03-31**

*Meeting Minutes*



## GeoDCAT Application Profile – Working Group Virtual Meeting 1

Venue	<a href="#">Virtual Meeting</a>	Meeting date	2015-03-31
Author	JVDL	Meeting time	14:00 – 16:00
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### DOCUMENTATION

[https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/site/dcat\\_application\\_profile/GeoDCAT-AP/GeoDCAT-AP\\_2015-03-31\\_1st\\_WG\\_Virtual\\_Meeting/](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/site/dcat_application_profile/GeoDCAT-AP/GeoDCAT-AP_2015-03-31_1st_WG_Virtual_Meeting/)

### ATTENDEES

Name	Abbreviation	Organisation
Angelos Tzotsos	AT	IMIS Athena Research Center
Andrea Perego	AP	Joint Research Center
Antonio Rotundo	AR	Agenzia per l'Italia Digitale
Chrysi Tsinaraki	CT	Joint Research Center
David Read	DR	Data.gov.uk
Georges Charlot	GC	GIS team of BRIC
Gianni (?)		
Hannes Reuter	HR	GISCO Team at Eurostat
Hans Overbeek	HO	KOOP
Javier Lacasta	JL	University of Zaragoza (Spain)
Jorgen Van den Langenbergh	JVDL	PwC EU Services
Kostas Patroumpas	KP	IMIS Athena Research Center
Makx Dekkers	MD	AMI Consult
Martin Seiler	MS	National Spatial Data Infrastructure
Michael Lutz	ML	Joint Research Center
Michael Östling	MO	MetaGIS
Pierluigi Cara	PC	Italian Civil Protection – Open data Group
Pieter Colpaert	PC	iMinds/Ghent University/Open Knowledge Belgium
Stijn Goedertier	SG	PwC EU Services
Udo Einspanier	UE	Con Terra
Willem Van Gemert	WVG	Publications Office of the EU
Wouter Schaubroeck	WS	HP

## AGENDA

Item	Subject
1.	Welcome and overview
2.	<a href="#">Process and methodology</a>
3.	Collaboration in the Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Public mailing list</a> archive</li><li>• <a href="#">GeoDCAT-AP release page</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Issue tracker</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Conference call system</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Contributor licence agreement</a> (You need to be a member of this project and logged in if you want to be able to read and sign the contributor agreement.)</li></ul>
4.	Context and objectives for GeoDCAT-AP (see <a href="#">previous work</a> )
5.	Introduction to <a href="#">first working draft</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Motivation: use case</li><li>• RDF bindings</li><li>• Controlled vocabularies</li></ul>
6.	Wrap-up, actions, <a href="#">next working group meeting</a> (2015-04-XX)

### 1. Welcome and overview

The participants were welcomed with a short introduction to the work of the Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations ([ISA](#)) Programme, which initiated and supports the work DCAT Application Profile as part of its Action 1.1 on semantic interoperability. Also Action 1.17 was introduced, the action under which the [initial work on an INSPIRE+DCAT](#) alignment was done.

The Working Group members introduced themselves as follows:

- **David Read:** Here from data.gov.uk
- **Martin Seiler, DE:** I work for the NSDI (National Spatial Data Infrastructure) Coordination Office in Germany, which is a unit of the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy in Frankfurt. I am working on the INSPIRE implementation, Open Data issues and eGovernment. I am chairing the German expert group on spatial metadata and contribute to the MIWP-8 working group for the revision of the INSPIRE metadata technical guidance. Regarding DCAT-INSPIRE: I think it's really necessary to join metadata initiatives to get out of the SDI-islands/silos... So I have high hope regarding our work in the coming years!
- **Angelos Tzotsos:** From IMIS Athena Research Center, developer of PYCSW
- **Jorgen Van den Langenbergh and Stijn Goedertier - PwC:** Working as a contractor for the ISA Programme of the European Commission, supporting the Working Group.
- **Michael Östling (se):** From MetaGIS. I'm working as consultant on metadata and GeoPortals for Swedish Agencies. My main task is working for the Swedish National Geodataportal which includes managing Inspire metadata. I also currently work on implementation of DCAT-api to extend a number of national Geodataportal so that DCAT can be exported from them besides exporting ISO19139. I also work on updates of technical guidelines for Inspire metadata.
- **Javier Lacasta:** From University of Zaragoza (Spain)
- **Pieter Colpaert:** From iMinds/Ghent university and I'm active in Open Knowledge Belgium. I'm working on a PhD in which I will need to be able to automatically discover datasets for route planning purposes. I'm a contributor to The DataTank in which I plan to implement GeoDCAT-AP.
- **Pierluigi Cara (IT):** From Italian Civil Protection - Open Data group
- **Udo Einspanier:** From Con Terra, working in a consortium with other partners on the EU Open Data Portal, my role is harvesting geo (INSPIRE) catalogues
- **Hannes Reuter:** Project Manager for the Internal Geoportal of the EC - working in the GISCO Team at Eurostat
- **Makx Dekkers:** Editor of DCAT-AP revision, listening in to ensure coordination between DCAT-AP activities
- **Hans Overbeek:** data.overheid.nl wants to offer the possibility to be the general national data-catalogue for government. We collect metadata about datasets from all kinds of local data-catalogues. Among them is the National Georegister, an important source of metadata about a large number of datasets. NGR is based on ISO19115, so we are very interested to a normative specification for a mapping ISO19115 - DCAT.

- **Antonio Rotundo (IT)**: Agenzia per l'Italia Digitale (Italian Agency for ICT), responsible for national metadata catalogue of spatial data and services
- **Kostas Patroumpas**: From IMIS Athena Research Centre (Greece), working at the EU/FP7 project GeoKnow for exposing geospatial (+INSPIRE) data/metadata on the Semantic Web
- **Willem van Gemert** (Publications Office of the EU): Working the Publications Office of the EU in Luxembourg. I'm dealing with harmonisation of metadata on EU institution level. As we publish our assets as datasets on the EU Open Data Portal, I'm interested in the DCAT-AP and the extensions.
- **Georges Charlot**: Project manager in the GIS team of BRIC which is the IT centre for the Brussels Region; we have deployed a geoportal for INSPIRE and are going to develop a strategy about Open Data this year, in that point of view it is important to know about the standards.
- **Michael Lutz (JRC)**: Coordinating the technical sub-group of the INSPIRE maintenance and implementation group (MIG-T); PoC for the ARE3NA ISA action (action 1.17). In ARE3NA we have an activity in the WP 2015 to support the testing of the GeoDCAT-AP in practice, e.g. by testing the feasibility of mapping INSPIRE metadata to the developed GeoDCAT-AP.
- **Wouter Schaubroeck**: From HP, Technology lead on anything to do with spatial data. We've several customers (DOV, Flemish Government, MercatorNET) that are involved with INSPIRE and publishing (geospatial) data

## 2. Process and methodology

A brief explanation was given about the process that will be followed for defining the DCAT Application Profile: the "[Process and Methodology for Developing Core Vocabularies](#)", developed by the **ISA** Programme.

Following this process: the following time-plan is foreseen:

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/node/139283#Tasks>

- **ML raised the following timing issue** (see [140223](#)): In ARE3NA ([ISA Action 1.17](#)) there is an activity in the WP 2015 to support the testing of the GeoDCAT-AP in practice, e.g. by testing the feasibility of mapping INSPIRE metadata to the developed GeoDCAT-AP. We may need to revise the proposed timing of the work (see: <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/node/139283#Tasks>) whether/when to do testing of the proposed spec (with the possibility to provide feedback or change requests) before the spec is finalised/endorsed? Before or after v1.0 (June)?
- **ISA Contributor Agreement:**  
All Working Group members are invited to electronically sign the ISA Contributor Agreement on Joinup. Signing the contributor agreement allows the EU to make the specification available under the [ISA Open Metadata](#)

[Licence v1.1](#)<sup>1</sup>. To sign the contributor agreement you need to be registered on Joinup and request membership to the DCAT Application Profile project on Joinup. Only then you will be able to access and sign it. If there are any problems with signing you can contact JVDL.

### 3. Collaboration in the Working Group

The different collaborative tools that are used within the WG were explained:

- [Public mailing list archive](#): all communications sent to the mailing list are archived online and publicly accessible. The mailing list is used for general announcements and discussion and contributions by the Working Group members.
- [Issue tracker](#): topics that require further discussion will be formally logged as issues in the issue tracker. In order to avoid duplicates, only editors should log issues on the issue tracker. In case you have an issue, please use the mailing list for submitting change requests on the draft specification. You can use the following structure:
  - Name of your organisation and description of its expected use of Geo-DCAT-AP
  - Description of your issue
  - Your proposed solution (if available)

Via this [link](#), WG Members can comment on issues that are already logged.

- [Conference call system](#): to access the conference call system, you use the link published on the respective virtual meeting page on Joinup. You need to enter as a guest. Then you can connect by phone by dialling a valid number or insert your telephone number and let the system call you. You will be asked to enter the room number, which is also available on the respective meeting page on Joinup.

### 4. Context and [previous work](#)

- AP explained that GeoDCAT-AP is an extension of DCAT-AP for describing geospatial datasets, data series, and services. It provides an RDF syntax binding for the union of metadata elements of the INSPIRE Metadata Regulation, the INSPIRE Regulation on interoperability of spatial datasets and services and the ISO 19115:2003 Core. Its basic use case is to make spatial datasets, data series, and services searchable on general data portals, thereby making geospatial information better searchable across borders and sectors. This can be achieved by the exchange of descriptions of data sets among data portals.
- MS said that possible issue will arise when in the DCAT-AP elements are made mandatory, while they are mapped to elements of the INSPIRE metadata which are not mandatory. This will create new requirements for datasets, which would not be desirable.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/category/licence/isa-open-metadata-licence-v11>

- ML explained that the idea is (currently) that the GeoDACT-AP will not replace the current recommended encoding for INSPIRE metadata (based on ISO 19115/19/39), but that it is simply a good practice for whoever wants to map their INSPIRE metadata to DCAT-AP. A possible solution, proposed by ML, for this would be to specify the additional elements defined in INSPIRE (e.g. Conditions for access and use) but not make them mandatory.
  - AP confirmed that it is important to note that GeoDCAT-AP should be used as an **alternative syntax binding** of the ISO standards/INSPIRE metadata and should not include mandatory elements which are not mandatory in the other regulations, neither should it be seen as a replacement for one of the two.
- According to ML, the outcome of this work should not only support the ISO 19115/19 but also the MD elements required by INSPIRE. In his view, this ISA working group will be developing a specification, and it should then be up for the INSPIRE community to decide whether it wants to adopt this specification as an (alternative) encoding for implementing the INSPIRE MD implementing rules, which is a discussion that should be held in the MIG-T/P, which are the technical/policy sub-groups of the MIG.
- MS pointed out that it was important to make sure to involve/inform all bodies early in the process, so no surprises will arise.

## 5. GeoDCAT Application Profile - Draft 1

- AP explained that the first draft specification ([Draft 1](#)) was elaborated based on the [initial work on an INSPIRE+DCAT](#) alignment. This draft already provides an RDF syntax binding for most metadata elements, only a few require testing (as highlighted in yellow), there are also a number of missing elements.
  - ML suggested to focus on elements with status testing or unstable and the missing elements.
- AP explained that the members of the WG are invited to review the draft and make any comments or suggestions via the [public mailing list](#) and [issue tracker](#).
- HO said that he was looking into mapping role types of agents to DCAT fixed properties.
  - AP explained that a proposed RDF syntax binding is included in the 1st Working Group draft, which is based on previous work by AP: [https://ies-svn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/metadata/wiki/INSPIRE\\_profile\\_of\\_DCA\\_T-AP\\_-\\_Reference#Metadata-point-of-contact-and-responsible-organisation](https://ies-svn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/metadata/wiki/INSPIRE_profile_of_DCA_T-AP_-_Reference#Metadata-point-of-contact-and-responsible-organisation)

## 6. Wrap-up

### Discussion

- Next meeting:

In order to successfully plan the next virtual working group meetings, the following doodle polls have been organised:

- Second virtual WG meeting: <http://doodle.com/8cvputr4swdqipbn>
- Third virtual WG meeting: <http://doodle.com/9c6kiksgpa3h8nqx>
- The following issues are already raised in the [issue tracker](#):
  - [139986 - GeoDCAT-AP: Clarify why the scope is set to ISO19115:2003 and not to ISO19115:2014](#)
  - [138935 - IM2 - How to describe datasets available via services with specific access methods](#)
  - [138907 - PR12 - Replace dct:spatial by property in line with INSPIRE approach](#)
  - [138937 - IM4 - Recommend best practice for spatial coverage](#)
  - [138909 - PR14 - Add new property to express lineage](#)
  - [140223- GeoDCAT-AP - Decide when testing of the proposed specification should take place](#)

### ACTIONS

Action	Owner	Date
WG members to comment the first draft of the <a href="#">DCAT Application Profile specification</a> .	WG members	2015-04-16
WG member to sign the <a href="#">Contributor Licence Agreement</a> .	WG members	2015-04-16
WG members to contribute issues on the current WG draft via the mailing list	WG members	2015-04-16
WG members to fill in the Doodle polls to schedule the next two meetings. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Working Group virtual meeting: <a href="http://doodle.com/8cvputr4swdqipbn">http://doodle.com/8cvputr4swdqipbn</a> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Working Group virtual meeting: <a href="http://doodle.com/9c6kiksgpa3h8nqx">http://doodle.com/9c6kiksgpa3h8nqx</a>	WG members	2015-04-16
Editors to product second draft	Editors	2015-04-09