

## Points to be discussed and revised for the next version of GARR

Authority control is not only one of the key pillar of the traditional bibliographic control but it plays a crucial role in the new digital data environment too. In general authority control ensures a unique identification of entities (their instances) and their relationships, production of trustworthy authority data and its sharing, exchange or reuse. We need to embrace the whole scope of authority control with a special focus on authority data and make it applicable for data providers or re-users.

- **advocacy (for authority control):** We need reference vocabularies and authority data in order to identify resources unambiguously and, more and more, automatically. Analytical data (as authority data) becomes valuable to qualify, reference and discover resources. On-line services use massive data on cultural and scientific resources, what enlarges the scope of authority data.

- **positioning (of the revised GARR):** The revised GARR document holds an intermediate place, between the reference models (FRAD / FRBR-LRM) and cataloguing standards and codes (e. g. RDA). It acts as a counterpart of ICP for authority data, or as a focus on authority data based on the general principles of ICP (namely the chapter 5 of ICP, “access points”).

- **scope :** GARR (which should adopt a new denomination) is not designed to cover the whole process of authority data in a such changing data ecosystem but should be focused on data produced and reused: what data should be produced – or reused – or to be related to by a cultural or a public institution for identifying its physical and digital resources? This encompasses: agents (individual or collective), works, expressions, maybe geographical names and events, whatever the use of data (access point, subject access point, other uses by other users...).

- **global background and terminology:** The terminology of the current edition of GARR should be updated so as to take into account the changing of the global background of the international data ecosystem: the need for standardizing records for exchange has been turned into the need for structuring data for share (a shift of paradigm from records to data). For instance: GARR should have a data-oriented approach and should not be so focused on display of records. Some other terms have to be updated (“headings”...).

- **communities:** GARR should allow a wider collaboration and data exchange with other communities involved in producing and using authority data, within the cultural heritage community (archives, museums) and beyond (public sector, publishers, end-users...). It implies to take into account interoperability and data exchange between databases, data repositories and programs using data on-the-fly.

- **entities :**

It is possible to understand authority data as a representation of entities (their instances) and their relationships in machinereadable digital form. GARR should take into account the major evolutions regarding authority data. There are several moments which should be taken into account (among others):

**Entities** : issue of public identities, compliance with the international ISO standard ISNI.

**Mandatory and optional elements** : defining mandatory elements by having in mind the diversity of using. Authority data should remain “neutral” so as to allow many reuses.

**Existing background**: ontologies (namespaces, vocabularies, linked data) and practices (RDA...).

Being focused on **relationships**, more than on “See also reference tracing”.

Being more focused on **trustworthy data**, on more precise data: issue of sources (every data should be sourced from), issue of “cataloguer’s note”, issue of **data protection**, personal data, confidential data.

Being more focused on updated **identifiers** (e. g. international identifiers). ISADN is superseded.

Being **less focused on display** than the current version of GARR.

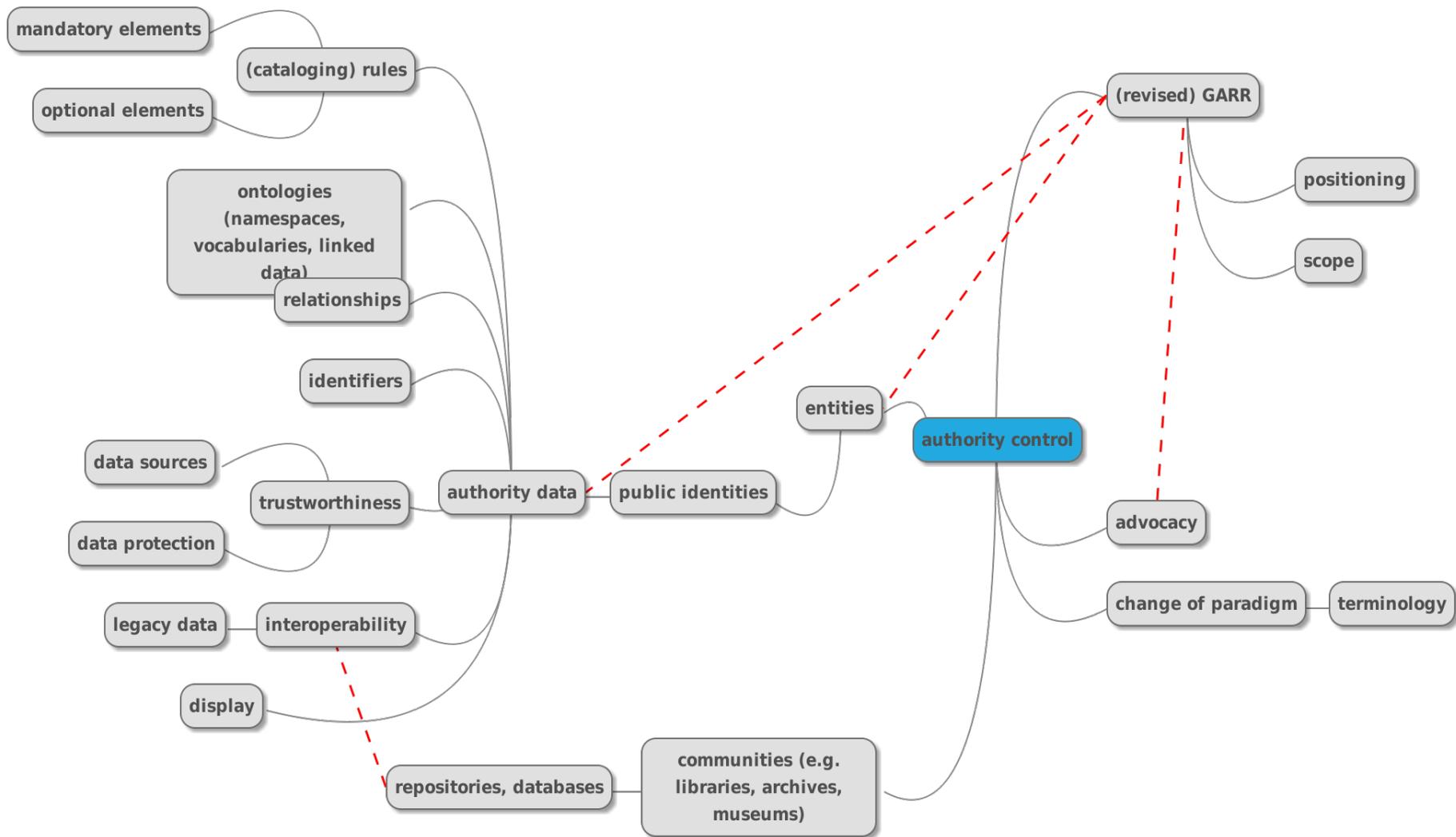
Being a framework for **legacy data** and its transformation into a new environment.

For a better idea of a new structure and content of the planned revised document we enclose a mind map of authority control with a special focus on authority data and its relation to the GARR document.

## Working group

Due to above listed arguments we kindly ask the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee for agreement with establishment of a working group for the revision of the current GARR document. Our idea is to have members from various standing committees – not only Cataloguing Section SC, but Classification and Indexing Section SC, Bibliography Section SC, LIDATEC or Committee on Standards too.

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*Mind map of authority control and its relation to GARR*