

# **Linked Data for Production: Pathway to Implementation (LD4P2)**

## **Non-Latin Script Materials Affinity Group**

### **Survey on Romanization: Report**

March 4, 2020

Submitted on behalf of the LD4P2 Non-Latin Script Materials Affinity Group by:

Larisa Walsh (University of Chicago)

Xiaoli Li (University of California, Davis)

Leigh Billings (University of Michigan)

James Kalwara (University of Colorado, Boulder)

Craig Smith (University of Michigan)

<b>I. Background</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>II. The Survey</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>III. Analysis of the survey</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>IV. Summary</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>18</b>

## I. Background

Library practices for bibliographic description of materials in native scripts have changed over time. In card catalogs, non-Latin materials were described in their native scripts, with an exception for titles which were romanized (represented in Latin alphabet). The transition to online catalogs introduced a significant change in the cataloging of non-Latin resources. Since native scripts were not available online, all descriptive and authority data had to be romanized according to international/national romanization standards (e.g. Library of Congress Romanization Tables). The development of the Unicode standard and then enabling OCLC and Integrated Library Systems to be Unicode compatible allowed gradual addition of data in native scripts, parallel to romanized data. As library systems become more sophisticated in handling native scripts, and with the move to linked data, there is an opportunity to start using native scripts only, or perhaps significantly reduce romanization in the description of resources.

This survey was initiated by the Linked Data for Production 2 (LD4P2) Non-Latin Script Materials Affinity Group (further referred to as Non-Latin Group) in response to the emerging practice in linked data cataloging of limiting the use of romanization in metadata description. The Non-Latin Group's mission is to explore different models when dealing with non-Latin scripts in Sinopia (LD4P2 Linked Data editor) and create a community of practice for cataloging non-Latin script materials in the linked data environment in general, Sinopia specifically. Questions have arisen as to whether additional properties for transliterated elements of description sets should be added to resource templates when libraries within the LD4P2 community started working on creating resources' profiles. Before any large scale decisions can be made, the group thought that the impact on users and library systems and staff needed to be considered.

The group was aware of the 2009 [ALCTS Non-English Access Working Group on Romanization Report](#) which concluded that romanization in library records provides enough added value and should be continued indefinitely. It also recommended, in anticipation of future developments, moving to Model B (simple multiscript records) sooner rather than later. Since the report was issued a decade ago, the Non-Latin Group was interested in learning how much the library landscape has changed in handling native scripts and wanted to ascertain if the time has finally arrived to begin reducing romanization in library catalogs.

The group proposed a survey that could help answer the question: **Do libraries still need to provide romanization for resources they collect?**

## II. The Survey

The survey consisted of eight questions (see full text in Appendix), and was designed using Qualtrics online survey software. Work on designing the survey began in July 2019 and ended in September 2019. The survey was posted on September 22 and remained open for two weeks until October 8, 2019. The survey was shared internally within LD4P2 libraries to engage

broader library staff. Links to the survey were distributed on the following listservs, in an attempt to target the non-Latin library and research community (mostly in North America and Europe):

1. ALCASA (Africana Librarians Council)
2. ALCTS CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Asian & African Materials
3. ALA Connect/ALCTS forums
4. ALCTS Central
5. Autocat
6. CEAL (Council on East Asian Libraries)
7. CONSALD (Committee on South Asian Libraries and Documentation)
8. CORMOSEA (Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia)
9. COSEELIS (Council for Slavonic and East European Library and Information Resources)
10. EASTLIB (East Asian Librarians)
11. ESS listserv (ACRL European Studies Section)
12. Facebook group: Troublesome Catalogers and Magical Metadata Fairies
13. Heb-NACO, Hasafran listservs (Hebraica and Judaica catalogers and librarians)
14. LD4P lists and Slack channels
15. MELA General (Middle East Librarians)
16. MELA Cataloging (Middle East catalogers)
17. OCLC-CAT
18. OCLC-CJK
19. OCLC-Non-Latin
20. PCC listserv
21. Rare Book Librarians listserv
22. Slav-Cat (Slavic catalogers)
23. Slavlibs (Slavic librarians)

### **III. Analysis of the survey**

(with special thanks to Craig Smith, University of Michigan)

BM SPSS 26 (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) software was used to analyze the survey data. In addition to quantitative and qualitative analyses, a grounded coding methodology was utilized to analyze free-text responses.

When designing the survey, the Non-Latin Group decided not to differentiate: 1) between languages or scripts; 2) between respondents with no or native/near native knowledge of non-Latin script languages; or 3) between different types of libraries: academic vs public vs specialized.

904 people responded but only 871 completed the survey. Partial responses were not included in the final analysis.

Please note that in the analyses of the free-text answers below, responses may add up to more than 100% because some respondents included more than one “answer” in their responses. Percentages were based on the total number of responses received, rather than the number of answers provided.

### **Question 1. Do you work in a library?**

Out of 871 respondents, 807 (92.7%) work in the library and 64 (7.3%) do not.

Those respondents who do not work in the library were asked to describe their work in an open-ended question - “What type of work do you do?”

The table below is the analysis of the free-text responses:

<b>Professors/ Teachers</b>	<b>Researchers /students</b>	<b>Catalogers in non-library setting</b>	<b>Retired librarians</b>	<b>Editors, translators, publishers</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
21	20	9	9	7	8	<b>74</b>
31%	30%	13%	13%	10%	12%	<b>110%</b>

74 answers on 67 responses; percentage based on number of responses

### **Question 2. Do you work with non-Latin script materials?**

Of the 871 who answered:

- Yes: 765 (87.8%) This was the group that received questions for the rest of the survey.
- No: 106 (12.2%) These respondents received no further questions.

The group decided to end the survey for respondents who do not work with non-Latin scripts after this question. After receiving an unexpectedly high response, and after analyzing the data, the Non-Latin Group members realized that this group of respondents might have contributed important data, and would reconsider their decision to end the survey for those respondents if re-doing the survey again.

### **Question 3. In what capacity do you work with non-Latin-script materials, either in native script or in romanization? (mark all that apply)**

People could choose all of the pre-supplied 13 categories that applied to them. Many respondents chose more than one of the categories below; thus, percentages do not total 100. The table below outlines choices made for these categories:

<b>Role</b>	<b>Number in Role (out of 871)</b>	<b>% of Sample (n = 871)</b>
Cataloging	582	76.10%
Acquisitions	227	29.70%
Research	225	29.40%
Collection development	218	28.50%
Reference	215	28.10%
Metadata maintenance	191	25.00%
E-resource management	110	14.40%
Circulation	100	13.10%
Interlibrary loan	94	12.30%
Shelving	93	12.20%
Serials check-in	82	10.70%
IT/Systems work	51	6.70%
Other	51	6.70%

Many respondents chose more than one category. Only 37.4% selected one role, while 18.7% selected two roles, but only 0.4% chose 11 and 12 roles. Out of 2256 responses, catalogers were by far the largest group - 76%. The next four largest groups here, that stand apart only by a couple of responses are: acquisitions personnel – 30%, research – 29%, collection development – 28%, and reference – 28%.

51 respondents (6.7%) indicated that they work in “other” areas. They were asked to describe their work roles using a text box (see table below for responses).

<b>Role</b>	<b>Number in Role (out of 52)</b>	<b>% of Responses (n = 51)</b>
Technical Services	18	35%
Special collections	6	12%
Preservation	6	12%
Teaching	5	10%
Library administration	4	8%
Digitization	4	8%
Editing	4	8%
Translation	3	6%
Other	2	4%

52 answers on 51 responses; percentage based on number of responses

In order to conduct analysis by role, given overlapping roles and some small group sizes, respondents were categorized into the following three groups:

- **Library workers with at least one Technical Services role** selected; this included acquisitions, cataloging, e-resource management, metadata work, and serials check-in ( $n = 633$ )
- **Library workers with no Technical Services roles** selected ( $n = 72$ )
- **People who do not work in a library** ( $n = 64$ )

Note: the numbers in each of the three groups vary in the analyses reported below because not all questions were answered by all respondents.

**Question 4. How necessary is it to your work that romanized data is provided for each of the following bibliographic elements, even if the native script is also provided?**

Thirteen bibliographic elements were provided for respondents to rate. Ratings were made on the following scale: 1 (never necessary); 2 (sometimes necessary); 3 (often necessary); 4 (always necessary). Respondents were asked to rate each element. Those who selected ‘no opinion’ were not included in the statistics reported in this section. The table below captures the survey results.

Field	Never necessary		Sometimes necessary		Often necessary		Always necessary		Total
Dates of publication	15%	95	18%	115	16%	100	50%	315	625
Edition statement	14%	84	22%	137	20%	122	44%	271	614
Names (author, editor, conferences, corporations, etc.)	6%	36	10%	68	15%	98	69%	446	648
Notes	19%	114	32%	192	19%	113	29%	175	594
Place of publication	11%	67	20%	124	17%	105	53%	333	629

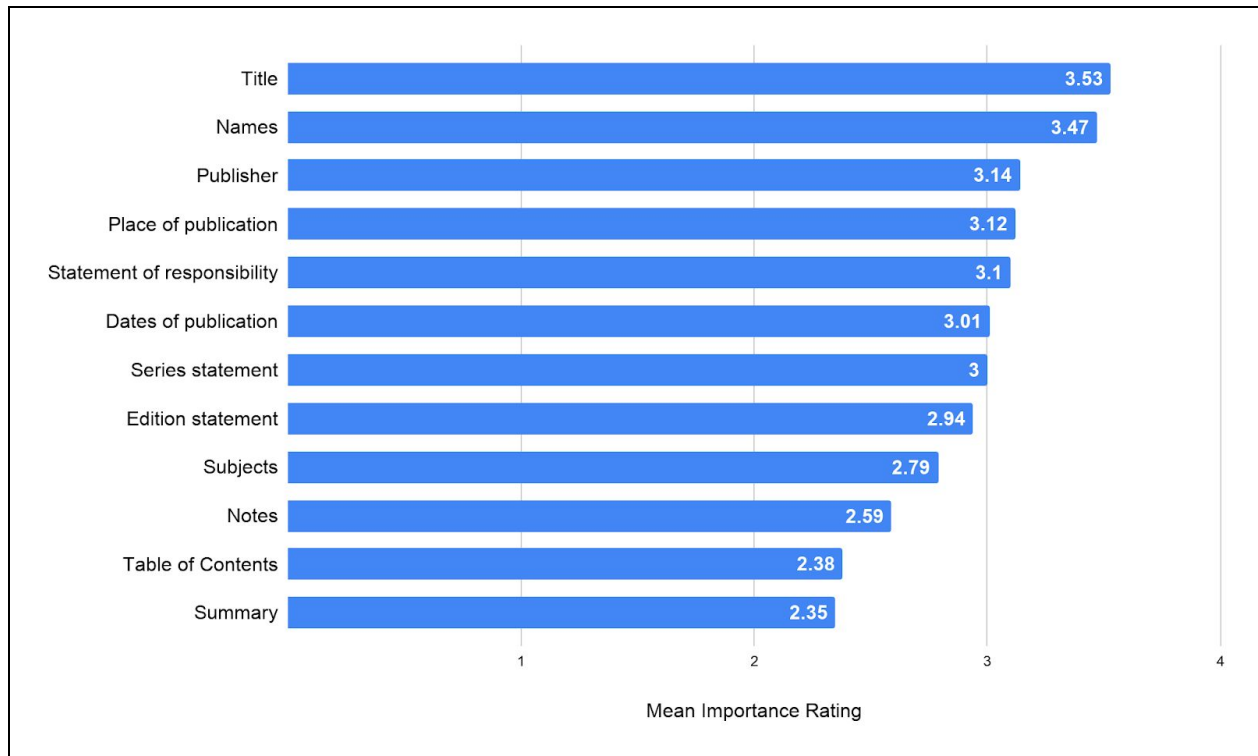
Publisher	10%	63	19%	118	19%	120	52%	330	631
Series statement	12%	70	21%	129	23%	138	45%	271	608
Statement of responsibility	14%	85	16%	101	16%	99	54%	328	613
Subjects	21%	130	21%	128	15%	90	43%	262	610
Summary	30%	176	28%	166	19%	109	23%	135	586
Table of contents	25%	145	35%	208	17%	102	22%	132	587
Title	5%	33	10%	64	12%	78	73%	476	651
Other (please specify)	23%	13	9%	5	16%	9	53%	30	57

The “always necessary” category received the greatest number of responses for all types of elements – 3,500, compared with 1,455 for the “sometimes necessary” category, 1,283 for the “often necessary” category, and 1,081 for “never necessary” category.

For the given categories, “title” generated the highest response – 72% of respondents think that it should be always romanized. The next most important area in need of romanization is “name (author, editor, conferences, corporations, etc.)” at 68%, making it almost as important as “title.” Of equal importance in the category “always necessary” – around 50% of responses – are “place of publication” (51%), “statement of responsibility” (50%), “publisher” (50%), and “dates of publication” (48%). On the other side of the spectrum – “never necessary” – the highest number of responses is for “summary” (27%), “table of contents” (23%), and “subjects” (20%). In the category of “sometimes necessary”, the highest number – higher than any of the three categories – is for “table of contents” (32%) and “notes” (30%).

The “often necessary” category in general did not receive high response rates. Bibliographic elements that were rated the highest were: “series statement” (21%) and “edition statement”(19%). “Notes” and “publisher”received 18% each in responses.

Below is displayed the mean importance rating (based on the scale of 1 “never necessary” to 4 “always necessary”) of each category for the overall responses to question 4.



Additionally, there were 26 free-text responses (categorized below) noting the importance of information other than those listed, many of which were considered alternatives to provided options (such as “contents notes” or “variant titles” or “access points”), while others were perhaps more out of the scope for romanization, like “ISBN” or “map scales”. Of these responses, 16 (50%) were rated as “always necessary”, while 7 (27%) were rated as “often necessary”.

Names/access points	Variant titles/spine labels	Serial enumeration	Notes	Extent/Physical description	Other	Total
5	5	4	3	3	6	<b>26</b>
19%	19%	15%	12%	12%	23%	<b>100%</b>

**Question 5. How do you use romanized data? (select all that apply)**

Based on the Non-Latin Script Group’s familiarity with the use of non-Latin script data in libraries, five predetermined categories were supplied for people to choose. Those who selected “other” were given an option to elaborate using a text box. The five supplied choices are: “assigning Cutter numbers”, “helping with pronunciation”, “marking resources”, “searching library online records”, and “sorting/indexing online records”.



The table below shows a breakdown of responses:

Answer	%	Count
Assigning Cutter numbers	17%	313
Helping with pronunciation	12%	214
Marking resources (labelling bound volumes, writing romanized title on items)	13%	239
Searching library online records	32%	578
Sorting/indexing online records	19%	347
Other (please specify)	7%	125
Total	100%	1816

Additional analysis was conducted to categorize respondents into the following roles: Technical Services role in the library, non-Technical Services role, and non-library role. The analysis of responses from each of the three groups is shown in the table below.

Romanized Data Use	1. Hold TS role in a library	2. Hold non-TS role in a library	3. Hold a non-library role
	%	%	%
Assigning Cutter numbers	47.9%	1.4%	14.1%
Helping with pronunciation	29.1%	18.1%	26.6%
Marking resources	35.1%	25.0%	12.5%
Searching lib. online records	76.8%	83.3%	56.3%
Sorting/indexing online records	49.8%	25.0%	23.4%
Other (please specify)	14.5%	27.8%	18.8%

The survey results show that “searching library online records” is the number one use of romanized data across all three groups.

The Technical Services group uses romanized data mostly for “searching library online records” (76.8%), “sorting/indexing online records” (49.8%) and “assigning Cutter number” (47.9%); these three types received the highest number of responses. “Marking resources” is the next largest type with responses at 35.1%, followed by “helping with pronunciation” which had 29.1%.

The library group with no Technical Services role also put the greatest emphasis on “searching library online records (83.3%), with the highest number of responses; “marking resources” and “sorting/indexing online records” each received responses of 25% while 18.1% in this group use romanization to help with pronunciation.

Respondents who held a non-library role indicated that they relied most heavily on romanized data for “searching library online records” (56.3%). “Helping with pronunciation” followed this category with 26.6%. Library activities like “assigning Cutter numbers” and “marking resources” also received a significant number of responses – 14.1% and 12.5% respectively.

In the follow up free-text answers, 123 respondents indicated other areas of activity where romanized data could be used. The answers were grouped into 12 categories (see table below):

<b>Use of Romanized Data</b>	<b>Number of Answers (out of 175)</b>	<b>% of Responses (n = 123)</b>
For cataloging	36	29%
For understanding, reading, and/or communicating without knowing the script	34	28%
For searching/working with OPAC/ discovery layer or database - including for research and for teaching patrons	28	23%
For shelving, prep for bindery; also identifying/verifying resources	20	16%
For authority work	12	10%
For providing or using citations	11	9%
For acquisitions	9	7%
For reports	5	4%
Helping to resolve problems with native script (entry, search, or display)	5	4%
For searching websites (vendor, publishers)	2	2%
For indexing	1	1%
Other	13	11%

175 answers in 123 responses; percentage based on number of responses

## Question 6. Do you rely on romanized data for scripts you cannot read?

588 (89%) respondents, an absolute majority, indicated that they relied on romanization for scripts they can not read. The percentage breakdown by each group were:

- Hold TS role in a library: 89.1%
- Hold non-TS role in a library: 89.4%
- Hold a non-library role: 80.9%

76 (11%) respondents do not rely on romanization. 49 responses to the follow up question, “Please explain how you accomplish your work”, were analyzed in the table below:

Ways to accomplish work	Number of Answers (out of 64)	% of Responses (n = 49)
Rely on personal knowledge of non-Latin script(s)	23	47%
Rely on tools such as Google Translate or dictionaries	12	25%
Rely on colleagues with language expertise and/or outsource	11	22%
Rely on romanization	11	22%
Rely on ISBNs or call numbers	6	12%
Other	1	2%

64 answers in 49 responses; percentage based on number of responses

While only those who answered “no” to the initial question, “Do you rely on romanized data for scripts you cannot read,” were provided with the option to provide a follow-up response, at least 11 (22%) of those responses indicated (somewhat counterintuitively) that romanization is important in their work. Some free-text responses were very particular about how important romanization is to their work: *“If I cannot read a script, it's because I don't know the language. Whether romanization is present or not help me. But if your computer cannot reproduce a script, romanization is the only way, assuming that I can read the language.”*

*“I work on materials in Southeast Asian languages that I cannot read. If, for example, I search by ISBN, it's easier to match the characters to copy than to use the romanized. I do use the romanization though for the cutter number. I'm not sure how I would do the cutter number without romanization. We also use the romanization for labeling boxes, but we could copy/paste the vernacular text.”*

**Question 7. How much would a lack of romanized data in bibliographic records impact your work? Choose only one, feel free to add comments.**

The response scale was (1) not at all, (2) moderately, and (3) significantly.

Below the table presents the analysis of the responses:

Answer	%	Count
Not at all	7%	49
Moderately	38%	252
Significantly	54%	357
Total	100%	658

The pattern of responses, based on the role, is presented below:

- Hold TS role in a library
  - Significant impact: 55.3%
  - Moderate impact: 37.5%
  - No impact: 7.2%
- Hold non-TS role in a library
  - Significant impact: 48.5%
  - Moderate impact: 48.5%
  - No impact: 3.0%
- Hold a non-library role
  - Significant impact: 50.0%
  - Moderate impact: 32.6%
  - No impact: 17.4%

In general, responses of all three groups indicate that the absence of romanized data would have a significant impact on their work, with the most negative impact on the Technical Services group (55.3%).

In the free-text comment section allowed for each category, the results were categorized as seen in the following tables. Selective respondents’ comments were also included to provide additional information.

**1. No impact at all**

Those who answered “Not at all” also provided the comments summarized below:

Have knowledge of languages/scripts	Romanized data is not useful	Other	Total
7	6	1	14
50%	43%	7%	100%

14 answers in 14 responses; percentage based on number of responses

The absence of romanized data had no impact mostly on the people who know the language.

The “No impact” group had some strong opinions against romanization: *“I see no purpose to romanizing other than to let archaic systems that can't display scripts at least display \*something\*. Romanization doesn't help our patrons locate books (in fact, we have discovered that strictly romanized records have been buried and staff/students didn't realize we had the books!). The point of cataloging and libraries is discoverability, and I don't see romanization as aiding that (except for pronouncing a name/title for a cutter).”*

*“I would welcome this change [not romanizing] because it would save time in cataloging since doing the romanization is what takes me the longest and it would eliminate mistakes by catalogers who do not know the language but try to do the romanization anyway.”*

## 2. Moderate impact

The free-text responses of those who answered “Moderately” can be summed up below:

Impact	Number of Answers (out of 103)	% of Responses (n = 83)
Have difficulty/can't work (if don't know language)	24	29%
Could not find/identify online records (including concern for user impact)	25	29%
Library systems would not be able to use records or it would work against library's policies	9	11%
Would need to consult with a colleague	9	11%
Would need to use other tools	7	9%
Low productivity in cataloging	6	7%
Would require help with pronunciation	4	5%

Could not find/identify physical items	4	5%
Other	15	18%

103 answers in 83 responses; percentage based on number of responses

The disappearance of romanization would have moderate impact on users (including library staff) who do not know the language but still need to find a resource. This group of people indicated that without romanized data in the bibliographic record they would most likely rely on help from colleagues and translation/romanization tools. Opinions from this group could be summed up as: Romanization always helps, but we can often manage without it.

### 3. Significant impact

The free-text responses of those who answered “Significantly” are summed up below:

Impact	Number of Answers (out of 122)	% of Responses (n = 122)
Have difficulty/can not work (if don't know language)	58	43%
Could not find/identify resources	16	13%
Could not find/identify online records (including concern for user impact)	15	12%
Low productivity in cataloging	13	11%
Library systems would not be able to use records or it would work against library's policies	9	7%
Would require help with pronunciation	2	2%
Other	9	7%

122 answers in 122 responses; percentage based on number of responses

The work of acquisitions and cataloging staff, and staff involved in the processing of materials, would be impacted significantly by a lack of romanization. They would not be able to find records, find and identify resources, or process materials: *“The commercial binder does not have any non-roman type. Without the transliterated text in the catalog, bindings and boxes would have to go to the shelf with call no. only to identify the book on the exterior.”*

*“Receiving orders and post-receipt processing would not be possible and would leave materials sitting in an unprocessed backlog of no use to faculty and students.”*

*“With cuts in staffing we often do not have staff who can read all of the languages we collect. Romanized data is necessary to keep materials from disappearing into a perpetual backlog. Impossible to identify certain resources without it, or to describe or core material as romanization is part of our standards.”*

*“I would have to outsource 100% of our non-Latin script cataloging. Currently with romanization we are able to handle at least 50% in house. We serve an area with dozens of languages, and don't have native speakers on staff for many of those.”*

Romanization is seen as more important for some languages, for example, Asian languages, as several respondents commented : *“Romanization is very important to properly identifying the correct pronunciation of Asian authors last names. There are also some characters with multiple pronunciation; romanization clarifies correct pronunciation.”* *“Without romanized data, it will be hard and difficult to distinguish materials in hand that has no word division in original language.”*

Respondents also commented on the impact of a lack of romanization on other areas:

- a. Reporting: *“I don't see how data from the catalog would be used in reporting tools, including products like Excel or Cognos, which are not able to handle the scripts.”*
- b. Collection development: *“I would not be able to help collect/find materials in the geographic area I'm in charge of.”*
- c. Reference/research work: *“I wouldn't be able to do my job. Many of the composers students/faculty want are Russian. I can take a stab at French and German, I'd be unable to do the same for Russian.”*

*“I am a history reference librarian, and help patrons find resources cataloged in many languages I can't read. romanization is essential to my work.”*

*“For materials without an ISBN/ISSN, I rely on the romanized title and author to search OCLC and our local catalog because I ...don't know the language, I can't use the Language Keyboard. Pieces of music are published in many different languages and we need to use romanized data to look them up and differentiate between them. I would be flying blind for all western music published in non-romanized script. Patrons at the music library often request items published in non-roman script. Romanized script is the only way that I can search these items for these patrons and romanized script is the only way I can identify the hits as relevant/non-relevant for what the patron needs.”*

*“I need romanized data to help connect patrons with materials when they can't find the materials themselves.”*

**Question 8. Please provide any additional comments you may have on romanization.**

202 respondents offered additional comments which were grouped into seven categories in the table below:

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Number of Answers (out of 238)</b>	<b>% of Responses (n = 202)</b>
Romanization is essential; without it completing work would be hard	124	62%
Romanization system, especially the one used in U.S., is not perfect, and even misleading	34	17%
Want to see more native script in records	29	10%
Should use tools to romanize automatically/ Automation tools are important	13	6%
Romanization is not needed	12	6%
Romanization helps with pronunciation	5	2%
Other	30	15%

238 answers in 202 responses; percentage based on number of responses

#### **IV. Summary**

The survey received a high response rate which indicates that the topic of romanization is important. The majority of the respondents are based in the United States, but some are based in England, Germany and Italy. The survey did not collect information on the types of libraries where the respondents worked, so it is unknown how representative the results of the survey are among different libraries. Additionally, 106 respondents, who do not work with non-Latin materials, were not asked further questions beyond Question 2. It is important to keep in mind that this group of respondents might have contributed important data if given the opportunity to complete the survey.

The primary outcome of this survey is that the absolute majority of respondents consider romanization an important aid in many library operations (acquisitions, cataloging, materials processing, ILL), development of collections in non-Latin scripts, in research and providing reference services to users.

According to their responses, survey participants were categorized into three groups: 1- Library workers with at least one Technical Services role; 2 - Library workers with no Technical Services role; and 3 - People who do not work in a library. Not surprisingly, the core group - 76% - that comprised the group of people working in Technical Services, were catalogers. When



choosing what elements of bibliographic description need to be romanized, the majority of respondents indicated that the titles and names (author, editor, conferences, corporations, etc.) are the elements that are always necessary to appear in bibliographic records in romanized form. Subjects, summary, and table of contents were considered least important for romanization. The lack of romanized data in library catalogs will have a significant impact on the work of all three groups, with the most negative impact on the Technical Services group.

Romanized data in library catalogs are mostly used for searching and sorting/indexing online library records, but is also very important in helping with pronunciation and marking resources.

An absolute majority of respondents rely on romanization of scripts that they can not read. In order to accomplish the work, those who can not read the script and do not rely on romanization use different strategies, most commonly – consult colleagues who know the language or script, search by ISBN or call number, use Google Translate or dictionaries, or simply outsource dealing with non-Latin scripts materials.

Some respondents expressed disapproval of the current romanization standards and believed such standards often impede access to materials.

Final comments from the respondents reiterated that romanization is essential in library catalogs.

The survey results clearly indicate that even when technology can handle native scripts in library catalogs, there is a human factor that cannot be ignored. Library staff and users of libraries are heavily reliant on standard romanization in description of non-Latin scripts resources, and this will not likely change any time soon. During this time of shrinking library budgets and insufficient staff that can manage native scripts, it can be argued that romanization is even more important. One solution, as was suggested by many respondents, is automated romanization at least for scripts based on the alphabet.

Based on responses to this survey, the answer to the question “**Do libraries still need to provide romanization for resources they collect?**” is Yes.

## Appendix

### Linked Data for Production 2: Non-Latin Script Affinity Group - Survey on Romanization

Background: Library catalogs include romanization\* to support the use of resources in non-Latin scripts. As library systems become more powerful in handling native scripts\*\*, and with the move to linked data, there is a desire to re-evaluate the current practice regarding romanization. Before any decisions can be made, we need to consider the impact on patrons, library staff, and systems used to manage those resources.

The Non-Latin Script Materials Affinity Group of the Linked Data for Production project would like your input on romanization in library catalogs. This survey will be used to help make recommendations on the use of romanization in library catalogs within a linked data environment.

Thank you for your input!

-----

\*Romanization: use of Latin script to write a language that is conventionally written in some other script or scripts

\*\*Native script: a collection of the symbols used in the writing system(s) of particular language(s). Most scripts are used for more than one language. Some languages are written using a combination of scripts.

No.	Question	Response Type
1	Do you work in a library?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● No               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>If no:</i> What type of work do you do? (free text)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2	Do you work with non-Latin script materials? (See examples of selected non-Latin scripts below) ΣΛΙΠΩΝΙΑ      ШЛИПОНΙΑ      ሽሊፖኒያ      ชลียงเนียง <small>Greek</small> <small>Russian [Cyrillic]</small> <small>Ethiopian</small> <small>Thai</small> הלפוניה      شليونيا      श्लिपोन्य      શ્લિવેન્ય <small>Hebrew</small> <small>Arabic</small> <small>Hindi [Devanagari]</small> <small>Gujarati</small> Շլիփոնիա      შლიპონია      シリポニア      스리보냐 <small>Armenian</small> <small>Georgian</small> <small>Japanese [Catakana]</small> <small>Korean [Hangul]</small> 施利波尼亞      شليپونيا <small>Chinese [Hanzi]: Shilipōnyà</small> <small>Turkistani [Sogdo]: Šlipōnatan</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● No               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>If no:</i> End of survey (no more questions asked)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3	In what capacity do you work with non-Latin-script materials, either in native script or in romanization? (mark all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisitions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cataloging</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Circulation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Collection development</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> E-resource management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Interlibrary loan</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> IT/Systems work</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Metadata maintenance</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reference</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Research</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Serials check-in</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shelving</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) (free text response)</li> </ul>
No.	Question	Response Type
4	<p>How necessary is it to your work that romanized data is provided for each of the following bibliographic elements, even if the native script is also provided? (respondents were asked pick one of the choices on the right for each option below)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dates of publication</li> <li>● Edition statement</li> <li>● Names (author, editor, conferences, corporations, etc.)</li> <li>● Notes</li> <li>● Place of publication</li> <li>● Publisher</li> <li>● Series statement</li> <li>● Statement of responsibility</li> <li>● Subjects</li> <li>● Summary</li> <li>● Table of Contents</li> <li>● Title</li> <li>● Other (please specify) (free text)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Never necessary</li> <li>● Sometimes necessary</li> <li>● Often necessary</li> <li>● Always necessary</li> <li>● No opinion</li> </ul>
5	How do you use romanized data? (select all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assigning Cutter numbers</li> <li>● Helping with pronunciation</li> <li>● Marking resources (labelling bound volumes, writing romanized title on items)</li> <li>● Searching library online records</li> <li>● Sorting/indexing online records</li> <li>● Other (please specify) (Free text)</li> </ul>
6	Do you rely on romanized data for scripts you cannot read?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● No <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>If no:</b> Please explain how you accomplish your work (Free text)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

No.	Question	Response Type
7	How much would a lack of romanized data in bibliographic records impact your work? Choose only one, feel free to add comments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Not at all (plus free text)</li> <li>● Moderately (plus free text)</li> <li>● Significantly (plus free text)</li> </ul>
8	Thank you for your participation. Please provide any additional comments you may have on romanization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● (Free text)</li> </ul>