THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN THE LIBRARY SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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Abstract

The article is concerned with the use of the international standards applied in the field of bibliography and library in the libraries of Azerbaijan. It is noted that in the context of globalization, the application of international standards and norms helps to determine the correct priorities both in economical and institutional context as in the other fields. It is indicated that the proper use of such standards contribute to a more optimal and sustainable interlibrary international relations.

Keywords: Azerbaijan libraries, international standards, national standards, book exchange

JEL classification: L15

Introduction

The application of the certain size and norms helps to achieve substantial and permanent results in all spheres of human activity in the services sector, production, evaluation and forecasting, classification and coding. In other words, normalization and standardization of any kind of activity and labor are needed.

Standardization means the determination of the single norms for the same or similar fields of activity in the terminological sense. At this point, it should be noted that the international standardization means the creation of a single methodical basis on an international scale for the development of quality systems (indicators), certification and creation of new ones (1-3).

The scientific and technical activities in this field mainly aim to adapt the national standardization system with the regional and international standardization systems. In this sense, the standardization of library activities means adapting the international standards in the relevant field with the national standards as well as applying the international standards directly to the library services and in many cases assessing the current administrative and technical skills and processes with the international, regional and national standards. It should be noted that, standardization processes were founded in 1906 in the Republic of Azerbaijan. OST-1 standard, which was adopted by the establishment of the Committee for Standardization under the USSR Council of Labor and Defense in 1926, has started to be applied in our country. The State Standard GOST (GOST) was established in the USSR in 1940, covered all areas of activity including library work during the Soviet period and was recognized as an international standard after the collapse of the Soviet Union.
The State Agency on Standardization, Metrology and Patent of Republic of Azerbaijan was established by the decree of the national leader Heydar Aliyev on December 27, 2001 and State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent was created by the order of the president of the Azerbaijan Republic Ilham Aliyev on the basis of the agency on November 19, 2008. According to the data of 2013, more than 750 national standards and 20900 international standards (GOST) are in force in Azerbaijan.

Library standards of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The State Committee has approved AZS 7.0-2010 GOST “Bibliographic writing. Title. General Requirements and Guidelines”, which defines the general requirements, its production rules, collection of information, order of the data series and etc. given to the title of the bibliographic article in 2010 and the state standard “Standards system on the information, libraries and publishing issues. Bibliographic writing. Bibliographic description. General Requirements and guidelines” on November 25, 2013. The state standard AZS 754-2013 “Standards system on the information, libraries and publishing issues. Bibliographic writing. Bibliographic description. General Requirements and guidelines” determines the procedure for the preparation of bibliographic description for the document, any part of it or the collection of documents (elements of bibliographic description and a set of areas, their sequence, fair presentation of the elements, stating proper abbreviations) and general requirements. Standard libraries are applied for the description of the documents compiled by bodies for the scientific and technical information, bibliographic bodies of the state, publishers and other organizations carrying out bibliographic activity (6). The standard, which was applied for the first time, is an authentic translation of the international standard developed by the Russian Book Chamber under the Committee for Press of the Russian Federation, Russian State Library and Technical committee for standardization TK 191 “Scientific and technical information, librarianship and publishing”. The first control date of the standart is in 2018 and inspection period is 5 years.

Both standards are the same translation of the other regional standard (GOST). This kind of authentic approach to the process is normal and acceptable for the standardization issues. However, the national standard needs to be explained about the adaptation to the international GOST standards specially adopted in Russia and the CIS, not on the basis of the international ISO standards, which we will give information about them a bit later. Adaptation of the national standards system of the Azerbaijan Republic on information, librarianship and publishing especially to the standard GOST arises from the following reasons:

1. The libraries and publishing houses in Azerbaijan have especially used GOST standards for about 70 years as an integral part of the information environment in the USSR. Therefore, there is no obstacle in the application of the standard.
2. GOST is the only norm which was adopted as an international standard in the CIS geography.
3. The structure of the standard is quite broad and almost applied for all types of activities in the field of library work.

There are some disadvantages in the adaptation of the national standards to GOST:

1. GOST standard is not international, but regional in nature.
2. The improvement of the international GOST standards was not taken in consideration because there are national standards fully adapted to ISO standards both in the Russian Federation (Russian Standard-RH) and also in many CIS countries.

However, some standards of GOST covering the library and publishing fields have been fully adapted to ISO standards in recent years (4). For example, GOST 7.11-2004 “Bibliographic writing. Reduction of the words and word combinations in the European
languages.” is an authentic translation of the international standard ISO-832-1994. The other GOST standards similarly translated from ISO are these:
- GOST 7.14-98 (ISO 2709-96) Format for information exchange. Record structure
- GOST 7.69-95 (ISO 5127-11-83) “Audiovisual documents basic terms and definitions”;
- GOST 7.9-95 (ISO 214-76) “Informative abstract and indicative abstract. General requirements”.

Applying international information and library standards

The state standard AZS 754-2013 “Standards system on the information, libraries and publishing issues. Bibliographic writing. Bibliographic description. General Requirements and guidelines” only identifies the rules of bibliographic description that is why the GOST standards, which we mentioned, are used for the other types of library service. Failure in using most of them significantly narrows the scope of the national standard. Discounting this and such kind of nuances during the creation of the standard makes necessary to improve it in 2018 (after a period of inspection) and adapt to ISO standards.

By the way, International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is a specialized international organization for the determination of standards. This organization was established with the participation of 25 countries, including the Soviet Union in 1946. The scope of the organization includes all areas of standardization and certification excluding electrical engineering and electronics. The main aim of ISO is to establish common standards for the development of international exchange of goods and services and improve the level of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic cooperation (5, 7). Azerbaijan is a member of ISO since 1998.

ISO has defined the standards adopted in many countries around the world in the librarianship, bibliography and bibliography fields. Some of them have been translated and included in the family of GOST standards. The last standard determined by the ISO relating to the bibliographic reference is ISO 690: 2010. This standard is an improved form of the ISO 690:1987 standard adopted by ISO in 1987. Both international (GOST), as well as national standards applied in this area in the CIS countries, including Azerbaijan are quite different from ISO 690:2010. Different standards are currently used in our country because single standard is not determined to provide bibliographic references in contrast to the bibliographic description. Therefore, the book of the same name is referred in different ways in various publications (books, magazines, scientific works, dissertations). Let’s consider a few options:

I variant


II variant

The first option recalls the description of the 1987 edition compared to the standard ISO 690 ("Information and documentation - Bibliographic references - Content, form and structure"). According to that standard, the book should be referred to as follows in the list of literature:


In contrast to Azerbaijan, national GOST Р 7.0.5–2008 standard “Standards system on information, library and publishing. Bibliographic reference. General Requirements and guidelines” benefited from the 1987 edition of ISO 690 standard is available in Russia since 2008. But that standard is not fully compatible to ISO 690. According to GOST P 7.0.5-2008, the rule of bibliographic reference to the book is so:


Besides all of these standards, the rules of the International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD-International Standard Bibliographic Description) adopted by IFLA is also available. Some parts of that standard has been translated and reflected in the international GOST 7.1-2003 standard “Standards system on information, library and publishing. Bibliographic writing. Bibliographic description. General Requirements and guidelines”. The bibliographic descriptions of some local publications, which remind the description on ISBD, are associated with it. However, it is noted in the preambles of both standards that, standards are only applied to bibliographic descriptions and it is impossible to apply them to the bibliographic references. The libraries in Azerbaijan use international ISBD standard in another way. Thus, bibliographic description method of all Automated Library Information Systems (ALIS) used in libraries (MARC 21, UNIMARC, RUSMARC) has been adapted to the ISBD. The libraries in Azerbaijan have enough standards (national, interstate and international) in the field of bibliographic writing and description and do not encounter any problem in this sense. As for the bibliographic references, it is expected that GOST P 7.0.5–2008 of Russia “Standards system on information, library and publishing. Bibliographic reference. General Requirements and guidelines” should be accepted as an interstate standard in the coming years as a result of “unstandardization” reigning in the publications of the CIS libraries in this field and translated into our language and fill the current gap that exists in the national bibliography and library.

No doubt, will serve to bring the bibliographic reference system, which is mainly typical for the scientific literature, closer to the international standards. But this is not the way out of the situation. Because, the libraries and publishing houses in the world use ISO 690: 2010 standard adopted by ISO in 2010 but not the rules of 1987, relating to the bibliographic reference.

Here it becomes clear that ISO inspect, updates and changes its own standards more intensively in accordance with the requirements of the day. In this sense, it is not possible to fully implement ISO standards in the libraries of Azerbaijan yet. Suffice it to say, ISO adopted (also updated, changed) more than 10 standards on information, librarianship, bibliography and document science in 2013-2014 These include the following standards:

Conclusions

Most of these international standards have not yet applied in the activities of the libraries in Azerbaijan. Only a few libraries use RFID technology in accordance with ISO 28560 standard including the chip and reading devices but this is also very limited. Prestigious scientific and educational organizations operating in the USA also contribute efforts for the bibliographic writing, description and reference standardization. Such organizations determine their own rules and achieve its standardization.

It is known that a large number of scientific publications in the world use APA, MLA, AMA, Turabian, Chicago standards. APA, the reference standard of the American Psychological Association, is used in the literature published in psychology, education, and other social sciences. MLA standard of Modern Language Association is accepted as a bibliographic reference norm on literature, arts and humanitarian sciences, AMA standard of the American Medical Association – on medical, health and biological sciences, Turabian standard of the University of Chicago Press – on all fields of science for college students and Chicago standard as a bibliographic reference norm in many books and magazines published in America on all non-scientific areas. For example, let’s consider the reference to an article on MLA, APA and Chicago standards in the following example:

**MLA style**


**APA style**


**Chicago style**


The above examples show that bibliographic reference standard is different for each association. Besides these standards, at present Azerbaijani librarians often meet the references developed on the less commonly used standards for now such as BibTex, EndNote, RefMan and RefWorks during the digitalization of foreign literature. In spite of little use of these standards, other standards adopted by ISO (ISSN, ISBN, ISMN) are widely used in the field of publishing and library in Azerbaijan.

According to the decision, the Copyright Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan organizes related to the issuance of the international standard identification numbers with the agreement of the international agencies on ISBN, ISMN, ISSN, ISAN and ISRC. ISBN, ISSN, ISAN, ISRC international standard identification numbers are provided through the national centers of international agencies on the Republic of Azerbaijan. The use of relevant international identification numbers (ISBN, ISMN, ISRC) is binding for the books, printed publications and audio-video records in all kinds of suppliers but the use of international identification numbers (ISSN, ISAN) is voluntary for the periodicals and audiovisual works in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan. National centers for the provision of international identification numbers maintains a registry of the international identification numbers, create a database about the users, publishes guidebooks on the assignment of identification numbers and gives the extracts from the databases on the basis of requests from the legal entities and individuals, as well as the government agencies.

The appropriate agencies of Khazar University are engaged in the assignment of ISBN and ISMN numbers. The functions of the international standard identification numbers can be more accurately understood by giving much information about them. For example, ISBN (International Standard Book Number) is an international book numbering system prepared by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and adopted with the consent of the member states in 1972. ISBN is a unique number and is meant only for one book. This standard was started to be widely used in the early 2000s in Azerbaijan. ISBN-s consist of 13 digits. Numbers and digits are divided into 5 groups separated from one another with a hyphenate: The first three digits (978) are EAN (European Article Number European / International Commodity Number) code. The second group determines the country of the print edition, the third group determines the publisher and the fourth group determines the index number relating to the material. And the fifth group consists of a determined figure to check the accuracy of ISBN.

For example, the ISBN of the publication “Turan Javid. Chronicle of Life” published in 2014 is 978-9952-8244-3-8. The number 978 shows the number of international commodity, the number 9952 shows that the publication belongs to Azerbaijan, the number 8244 shows the publishing code and the digit 3 shows the number of books published this year. ISO 2108: 2005 ISBN is a standard of serious international importance in terms of both identifying the book and facilitating the exchange of books among the libraries, as well as accelerating the work of cataloging. The other standard prepared by ISO (ISO 10957: 2009) is the international standard musical number or ISMN. ISMN is an international identification code of the music books. This code is the number on the location and publishing of the book. ISMN is used to identify the music publications by libraries. Currently ISMN code with 13 digits is used. Each ISMN code consists of four parts: for example: 9790-01302-3344-7. Here, 9790 is the prefix expressing the music literature industry, 01302 is a publishing code, 3344 is an identification number of the book and 7 is the control number. One of the other international standards is ISSN (International Serial Standard Number). The ISSN applied to periodicals all over the world acts as a unique identifier in the interlibrary exchange. ISSN is a unique number with 8 digits regardless of its place of publication, language and format. Libraries distinguish it from another edition with the same name knowing ISSN of a publication and use it during the staffing of the magazines. Finally, ISO 3901, which has just begun to be implemented in Azerbaijan and will facilitate the work of libraries, ie ISAN /
ISRC - about the number which defines the international standard identity of the audiovisual works: different versions of the audio-visual records are numbered with this code. In this way, different recordings editorial and remixes of the same music and the same video, have different ISAN/ISRC codes. ISAN codes are provided by the local ISAN agencies for both individuals and legal entities. These codes are always 12 characters long and recorded in the format of “AZ-033-014-OEP23” (hyphens are not any part of the code and only written in this form in order to facilitate the reading of this code). This four-part code is opened as follows:

- “AZ”- represents the country code according to the standard ISO 3166-1. “AZ” is an international abbreviation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- “033”- is the number of the organization who is an audio or video recorder (also who prepares for the first time and transfers copies). This is the conventional number of the State Film Fund in our example.
- “014”- the last two or three digits of the registration year (This date may not be the same as at the date of creation of audio or video). For example, when the film “Arshin, mal alan”, which was shot in 1965, was numbered with this identification code in 2014, “014” must be indicated as the last number but not “65”.
- “OEP23”- is a unique sequence of five numbers defining a certain audio video recording. Therefore, the international exchange of information, reduction of costs, dissemination of information and development of innovation, professionalism of librarians, increasing the labor productivity and the division of duties will become a little bit easier and the level of integration to the areas of international information, which we will talk about in the next subsection, will rise thanks to the widespread use of these and other international standards in the activities of the libraries in Azerbaijan.

References

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