

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum



DATE: April 15, 2024

**To:** Program for Cooperative Cataloging  
Library of Congress Constituents

**From:** Beacher Wiggins, Director  
Acquisitions & Bibliographic Access

**Subject:** Phased Implementation of Non-Latin Script Input in BIBFRAME and  
LCAP/FOLIO

To prepare for BIBFRAME implementation at the Library of Congress in spring 2025 as part of the LCAP (Library Collections Access Platform) FOLIO implementation, the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) will be adopting best practices for non-Latin script input for bibliographic descriptions. These best practices will place a greater emphasis on original scripts, and less emphasis on romanization of original script. The best practices will be introduced in a phased approach and will develop over time into official Library of Congress policies for non-Latin script input for bibliographic descriptions.

Until spring 2025, ABA will collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate this transition, to ensure that the best practices are shared with the broader cataloging community. The phased approach and proposed timeline are outlined below. Note that this timeline may change based on the rolling implementation plan for Metadata Management in the LCAP/FOLIO environment. Updates will be provided as necessary.

**Phase 1: spring 2025**

Start with JACKPHY+CAT (Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, Yiddish + Cyrillic, Armenian, and Thai) languages, currently included in Voyager.

**Phase 2: summer 2025**

Implement languages and scripts beyond the MARC-8 repertoire for which transliteration tools are available in ScriptShifter. ScriptShifter is an open access set of romanization tools being developed at the Library of Congress. ScriptShifter is currently being enhanced to enable romanization of Asian Slavic languages, several South and Southeast Asian languages, and Amharic, among others.

**Phase 3: fall 2025 and beyond**

Introduce all other languages and scripts in the Library's collections for which transliteration tools may not have been accessible. These include Latin-based languages with characters that are currently not permitted in Library of Congress bibliographic descriptions.

With the broad Unicode possibilities that the LCAP/FOLIO implementation offers, we are presented with opportunities to enhance discoverability for the Library's non-Latin script collections. We are looking forward to making this phased transition a success over the next year.

For access to the Recommendation Report and Policy Issue documents, please visit: [Phased Implementation of Non-Latin Script Input in BIBFRAME and LCAP/FOLIO](#) page.

For inquiries, please contact the ABA [Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division](#).