The first edition of subclass KD, *Law of the United Kingdom and Ireland*, developed by John Fischer, was published in 1973. A 1998 edition cumulated all changes that had been made to the schedule during the period 1973-1998, followed by a 2008 edition that included significant changes and simplifications that were made to Form Division Tables KD1, KD2, and KD3. Beginning in 2015, editions were issued annually. This 2020 edition cumulates changes made since the 2019 edition.

Classification numbers or spans of numbers that appear in parentheses are formerly valid numbers that are now obsolete. Numbers or spans that appear in angle brackets are optional numbers that have never been used at the Library of Congress but are provided for other libraries that wish to use them. In most cases, a parenthesized or angle-bracketed number is accompanied by a "see" reference directing the user to the actual number that the Library of Congress currently uses, or a note explaining Library of Congress practice.

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Libby Dechman, senior cataloging policy specialist in Policy, Training & Cooperative Programs Division, is responsible for coordinating the overall intellectual and editorial content of subclass KD. Kent Griffiths, assistant editor of classification schedules, is responsible for creating new classification records, maintaining the master database, and creating index terms for the captions.

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