BACKGROUND: *From 1981 until early 1992, the heading **Soviet Union** was used as a subject heading for both the pre- and post-1917 periods of that country's history, following the rule that only the latest form of any geographic name may be used for subject cataloging purposes.   In 1992, subject cataloging practice was changed to reflect the dissolution of the Soviet Union.   Usage of the subject heading **Russia** was restored for the pre-1917 period, usage of the subject heading **Soviet Union** was restricted to the period 1917-1991, and new name headings were established for the individual republics of the former Soviet Union.   This instruction sheet provides guidelines on the usage of headings for Russia, the Soviet Union, and the former Soviet republics.*

1. Russia.   Assign the heading **Russia**, with appropriate topical and period subdivisions, for works on the Russian Empire before 1917.

Assign this heading also as a geographic subdivision under topics, for works limited to the pre-1917 period.   Do not, however, divide topics through **Russia** to bring out localities, even for the pre-1917 period.   Divide only through the current jurisdictional name, for example, **Serfdom–Russia (Federation)–Siberia.**

> *Note: For works that deal with both the pre- and the post-1917 periods, it may be necessary to assign both **Russia** and **Soviet Union** if there is sufficient material about both periods to warrant it.*

2. Soviet Union.   Assign the heading **Soviet Union**, with appropriate topical and period subdivisions, only for the period 1917-1991.

Assign this heading also as a geographic subdivision under topics, for works limited to the 1917-1991 period.   Do not, however, divide topics through **Soviet Union** to bring out localities, even for the 1917-1991 period.   Divide only through the current jurisdictional name, for example, **Collective farms–Russia (Federation)–Moscow Region**.

H 1023   Soviet Union

3. Former Soviet republics.   *(Continued)*

> *a. The republics treated collectively.*   Assign the heading **Former Soviet republics** to works that discuss collectively the independent countries that emerged from the dissolution of the former Soviet Union in 1991.   Assign this heading also as a geographic subdivision.

> *b. Individual republics.*

>> *(1) Headings for the republics.*   The following name headings have been established for the former Soviet republics, based on English-language forms authorized by the United States Board on Geographic Names:

Armenia (Republic)	Lithuania
Azerbaijan	Moldova
Belarus	Russia (Federation)
Estonia	Tajikistan
Georgia (Republic)	Turkmenistan
Kazakhstan	Ukraine
Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan
Latvia	

> Following the principle of using only the latest form of any geographic name for subject cataloging purposes, assign these headings, with appropriate topical and period subdivisions, for all periods in the history of these republics.   Headings of the type **Russian S.F.S.R.**, **Georgian S.S.R.**, etc., are no longer valid for subject usage.

3. Former Soviet republics.

   b. Individual republics.   *(Continued)*

      (2) Localities within the republics.

> *Note: Although local jurisdictional headings with the qualifier (R.S.F.S.R.) or ([. . .] S.S.R.) are valid as descriptive access points, they are generally not valid for subject usage. Only those headings with current qualifiers may be assigned as subject headings or geographic subdivisions. If a local jurisdiction that is needed as a subject heading or subdivision has not yet been established with the appropriate current qualifier, establish it in the name authority file or request a descriptive cataloger to do so. Local jurisdictions that ceased to exist and have no current counterpart, for example, **Turkestanskai͡a A.S.S.R. (R.S.F.S.R.),** may be assigned as subject headings or geographic subdivisions.*

> *i. Form of qualifier.* Use the forms listed in sec. 3.b.(1), above, to qualify localities being established in the subject authority file.   In the case of Armenia, Georgia, and Russia, omit the term **(Republic)** or **(Federation)** when using the heading as a qualifier.   *Examples:*

```
151 ## $a Berezina River (Belarus)


151 ## $a Keli Range (Georgia)
[not 151 ## $a Keli Range (Georgia : Republic)]



151 ## $a Kamchatka Peninsula (Russia)
[not 151 ## $a Kamchatka Peninsula (Russia :
          Federation)]
```

3. Former Soviet republics.

b. Individual republics.

(2) Localities within the republics.   *(Continued)*

ii.   Geographic subdivision.   The normal rules for geographic subdivision given in H 830 apply for the individual republics.   Divide all localities only through the latest name of each republic, regardless of the time period covered in the work being cataloged.   If an entity is located in more than one republic, assign the heading directly.   *Examples:*

> *Locality:*   Kiev (Ukraine)
> *As subdivision:*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a [topic] $z Ukraine $z Kiev.
> ```

> *Locality:*   Baikal, Lake (Russia)
> *As subdivision:*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a [topic] $z Russia (Federation)
>           $z Baikal, Lake.
> ```

> *Locality:*   Trialet Range (Georgia)
> *As subdivision:*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a [topic] $z Georgia (Republic)
>           $z Trialet Range.
> ```

> *Locality:*   Irtysh River (Kazakhstan and Russia)
> *As subdivision:*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a [topic] $z Irtysh River (Kazakhstan
>           and Russia)
> ```

4. Commonwealth of Independent States.   Assign this heading for works that deal with the political organization established in 1991 by many of the former Soviet republics.   Note that this is a corporate body heading tagged 110 and may *not* be used as a geographic heading or subdivision.

5. *Russian vs. Soviet as adjectival qualifiers.* Use the adjective **Russian** as a language, ethnic, or national qualifier referring to the pre-1917 empire, the 1917-1991 Soviet republic, or the current independent federation.   Use the adjective **Soviet** as a national qualifier referring to the Soviet Union as a whole during the 1917-1991 period.

6. *Geographic area codes.* Assign the following codes:

Armenia (Republic)	**a-ai---**
Azerbaijan	**a-aj---**
Belarus	**e-bw---**
Commonwealth of Independent States	**e-ur---**
Estonia	**e-er---**
Former Soviet republics	**e-ur---**
Georgia (Republic)	**a-gs---**
Kazakhstan	**a-kz---**
Kyrgyzstan	**a-kg---**
Latvia	**e-lv---**
Lithuania	**e-li---**
Moldova	**e-mv---**
Russia	**e-ur---**
Russia (Federation)	**e-ru---**
Soviet Union	**e-ur---**
Tajikistan	**a-ta---**
Turkmenistan	**a-tk---**
Ukraine	**e-un---**
Uzbekistan	**a-uz---**