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## Information and documentation — Description and presentation of rights information

*Information et documentation — Description et présentation de  
l'information relative aux droits*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Identification and description*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

Many libraries, museums and archives are digitizing their collections to provide them for the public through the network. In addition, there are many services on the network that supply similar digital resources to the public. These digital collections are invaluable sources for cultural activities. But the digital resources provided by these collections may have some restriction for the usage. Intellectual rights and terms of use concerning the provided resource have to be respected.

Most digital collections present such rights information somewhere in their services. In many cases, however, it is hard for ordinary users to find correct information. There are many ways to present rights information. This document provides a guideline to present rights information in an easily accessible way. It will ease the work involved in seeking proper rights information and promote usage of digital collections.

This document is intended to provide guidelines for digital collection service developers to design systems that can effectively present rights information to the end-users. Digital collection providers (e.g. libraries, museums, etc.) can refer to this document when they commission their service systems.

This document does not provide the guidelines for the entire design of a service system. References to search page or browsing page, for example, does not mean that they are recommended. Only the parts concerning the presentation of rights information are the recommendations of this document.

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