BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe 2022

Official RDA and BIBFRAME

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Original RDA and MARC Experiences

- *Official* RDA being tested and has not yet been implemented
- FRBR and Original RDA not easy to express in MARC
- MARC is still the lingua franca of cataloging
- MARC has ontological inexpressivity
- FRBR modeling at the Work and Expression level is ambiguous in practice
- If a Work is an abstract entity, how can it be used descriptively as a discreet entity?

Original RDA and MARC Experiences

- What are we cataloging? Works? Expressions? Manifestations? All three?
- Did PCC make a mistake in allowing the conflation between work and expression?

LIBRARY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Everything

The Library of Congress > Linked Data Service > **LC Name Authority File (LCNAF)**

Márai, Sándor, 1900-1989. Gyertyák csonkig égnek

URI(s)

- http://id.loc.gov/authorities/names/n2017033229

Instance Of

- MADS/RDF NameTitle
- MADS/RDF Authority
- SKOS Concept

Components

- Márai, Sándor, 1900-1989.
- Gyertyák csonkig égnek

Scheme Membership(s)

- Library of Congress Name Authority File

Collection Membership(s)

- Names Collection - Authorized Headings
- LC Names Collection - General Collection
- Names Collection - FRBR Work

Work Begun

- (edtf) 1942

Form

- (lcgft) Novels

Exact Matching Concepts from Other Schemes

- http://viaf.org/viaf/sourceID/LC%7Cn+2017033229#skos:Concept

Sources

- found: Tutino, M. Le braci [SR] p2016:insert (A gyertyák csonkig égnek (1942); most famous novel by Márai)

Original RDA and MARC Experiences

- This somewhat dysfunctional relationship between RDA and MARC has “worked” since 2012
- BIBFRAME Pilot experience questioned all of this though and exposed these failings in MARC
- MARC can prevent an understanding of RDA, or at least enable complacency
- BIBFRAME’s structure will not condone this

Official RDA and BIBFRAME Possibilities

- BIBFRAME is an ideal communications format for *Official* RDA data
- Recording methods
- *Official* RDA is even more linked-data friendly than Original RDA
- LC intends to instruct catalogers in BIBFRAME before instruction in *Official* RDA
- Marva and Sinopia BIBFRAME editors are freely available

Abstract

- Use MARC to enhance BIBFRAME
- Look at *Official* RDA as it could be expressed in BIBFRAME
- Look at those changes in the *Official* RDA Toolkit that can change the course of cataloging from a flat MARC-based world to a linked data semantic environment

Topics

1. Aggregate resources – Complete Works
2. Translations – aggregates and individual
3. Representative Expression
4. BIBFRAME **Hubs** / Work Groups
    a) Ontological differences between BIBFRAME and *Official* (and Original) RDA

Aggregate Resources: Complete Works

Official RDA:

- Every aggregating work is a new work since it aggregates different expressions
- The WE Lock
- Conventional collective titles are not integral to Official RDA (in Community Resources)
- No guidance on authorized access points

Aggregate Resources: Complete Works

Long-standing Practice / Original RDA:

- For expediency, complete works are considered “one” work
    - Based on filing rules rather than a data model

Solution:

- Works can be considered a **Hub** / Work Group though
    - A common appellation to collocate distinct works with common characteristics

Aggregate Resources: Complete Works

Solution:

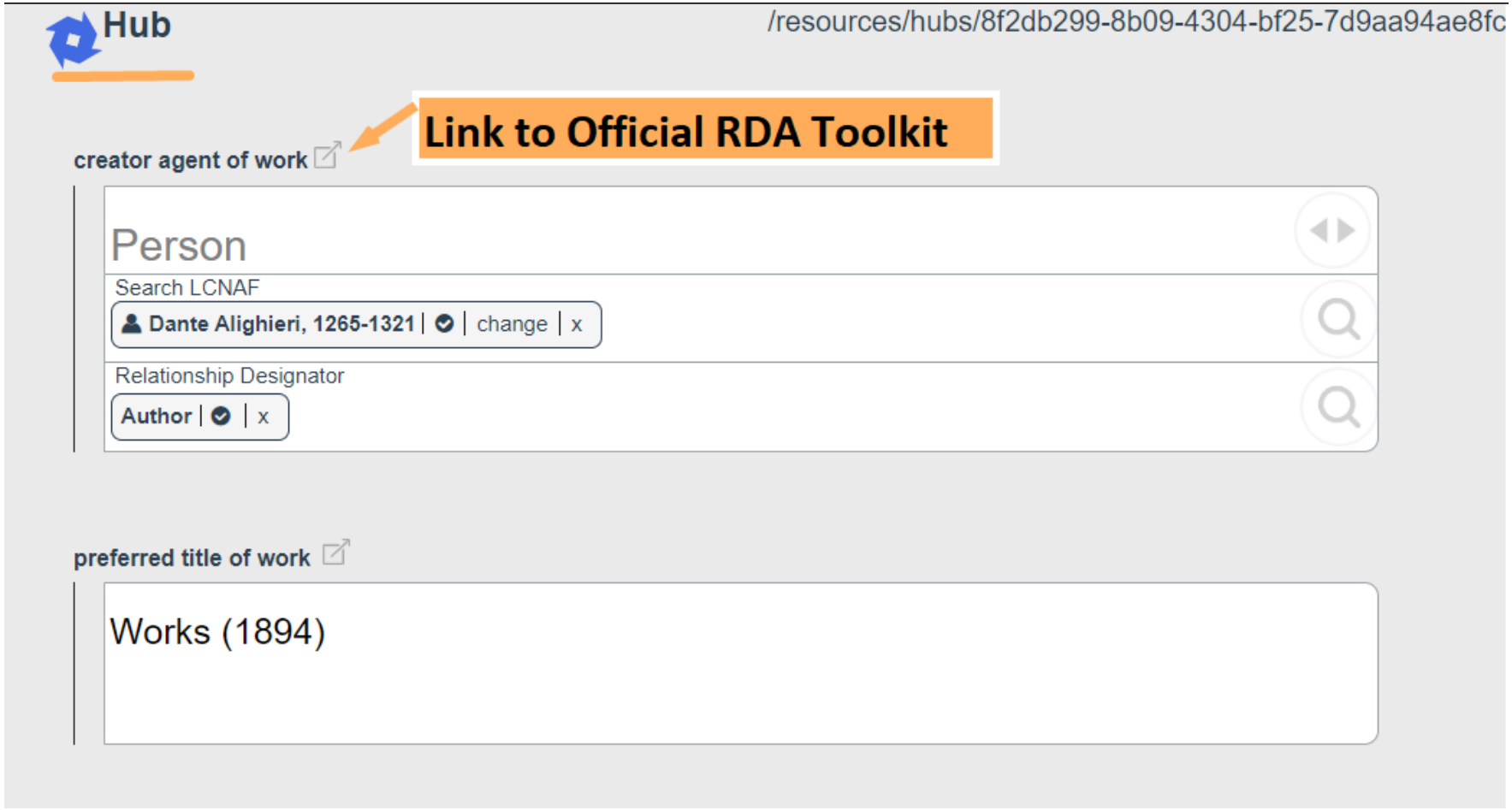
- For published resources:
  - Treat all complete works as separate static, determinate works and make them **Hubs**
  - Use Work Group designation Works + differentiation (year, publisher, etc.)
  - Add syntax information (VES, SES) to MGDs

Aggregate Resources: Complete Works

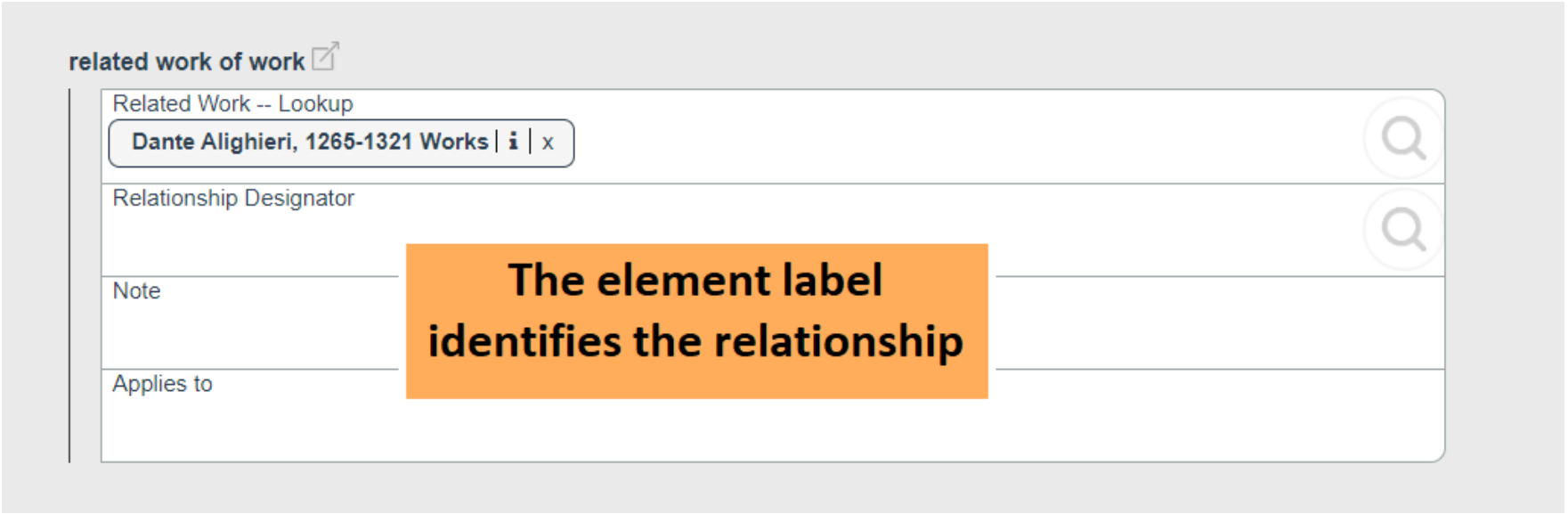
Solution:

- For Super Work:
  - Use BIBFRAME **Hub** for Works minus differentiation
  - Using MARC to leverage BIBFRAME, this could happen now if BIBFRAME Works were created as MARC **bibliographic** records and not authority records

Marva Example



Marva Example



Translations: Aggregate Resources

Official RDA:

- For aggregate resources, translations are inherently new Works because the aggregating expressions are different
- This means that the title of the translation is the preferred title

Translations: Aggregate Resources

Long-standing Practice / Original RDA:

- How did you identify an expression under Original RDA?
- Title of expression does not exist
- An expression is identified through the authorized access point for the work + an expression attribute

Translations: Aggregate Resources

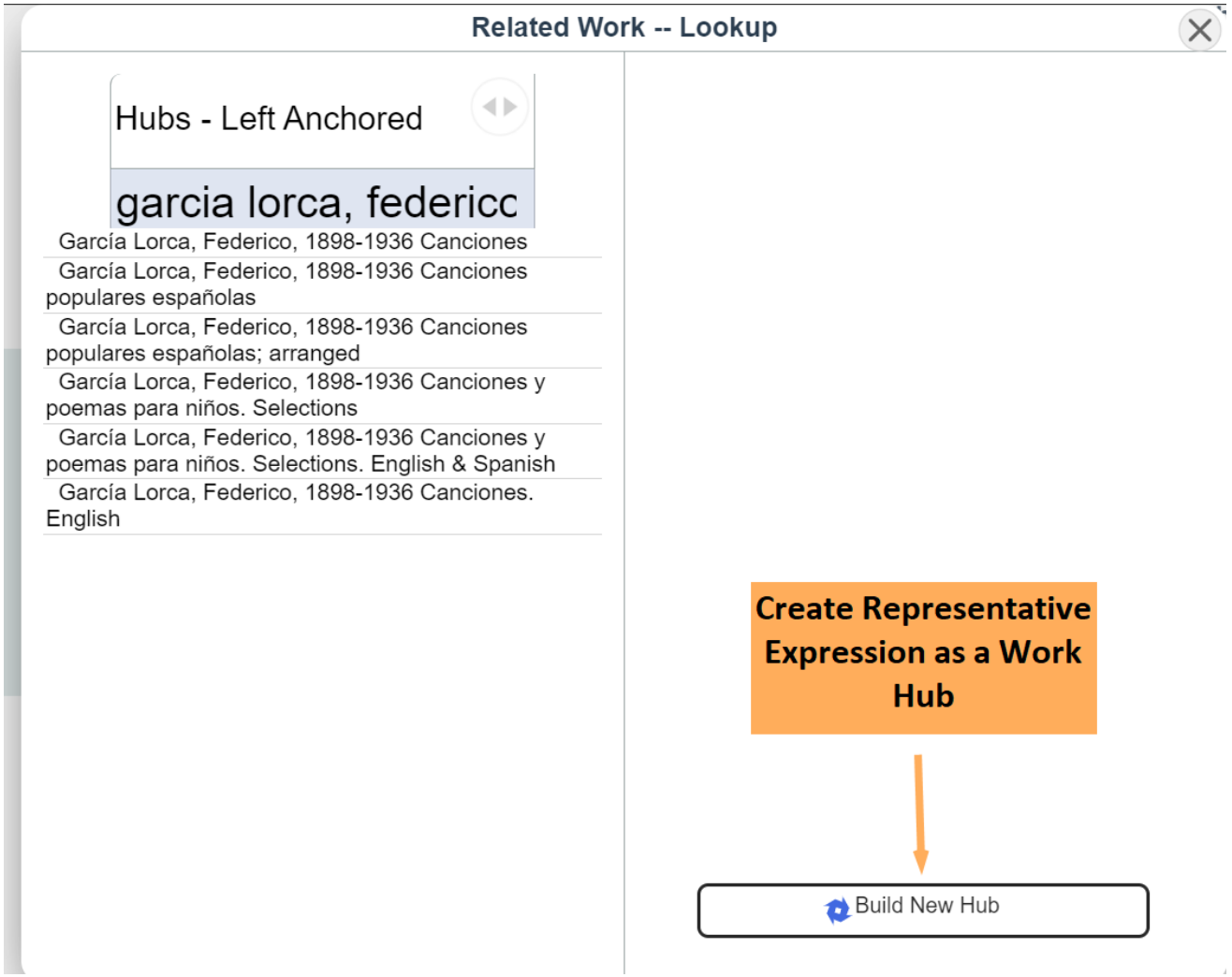
Solution:

- Explicitly identify the relationship between the translation and the original
- Do not infer it from the authorized access point
- Entities > Work > related work of work ?
- Entities > Expression > translation of ?

Marva Example

Marva Example

Marva Example



Translations: Individual

Official RDA:

- A translation is not a new work but is an expression of the original-language work (the representative expression?)
- VES and SES instructions are not in *Official* RDA and an expression is identified by an AAP
- Entities > Expression > preferred title of expression

Translations: Individual

Long-standing Practice / Original RDA:

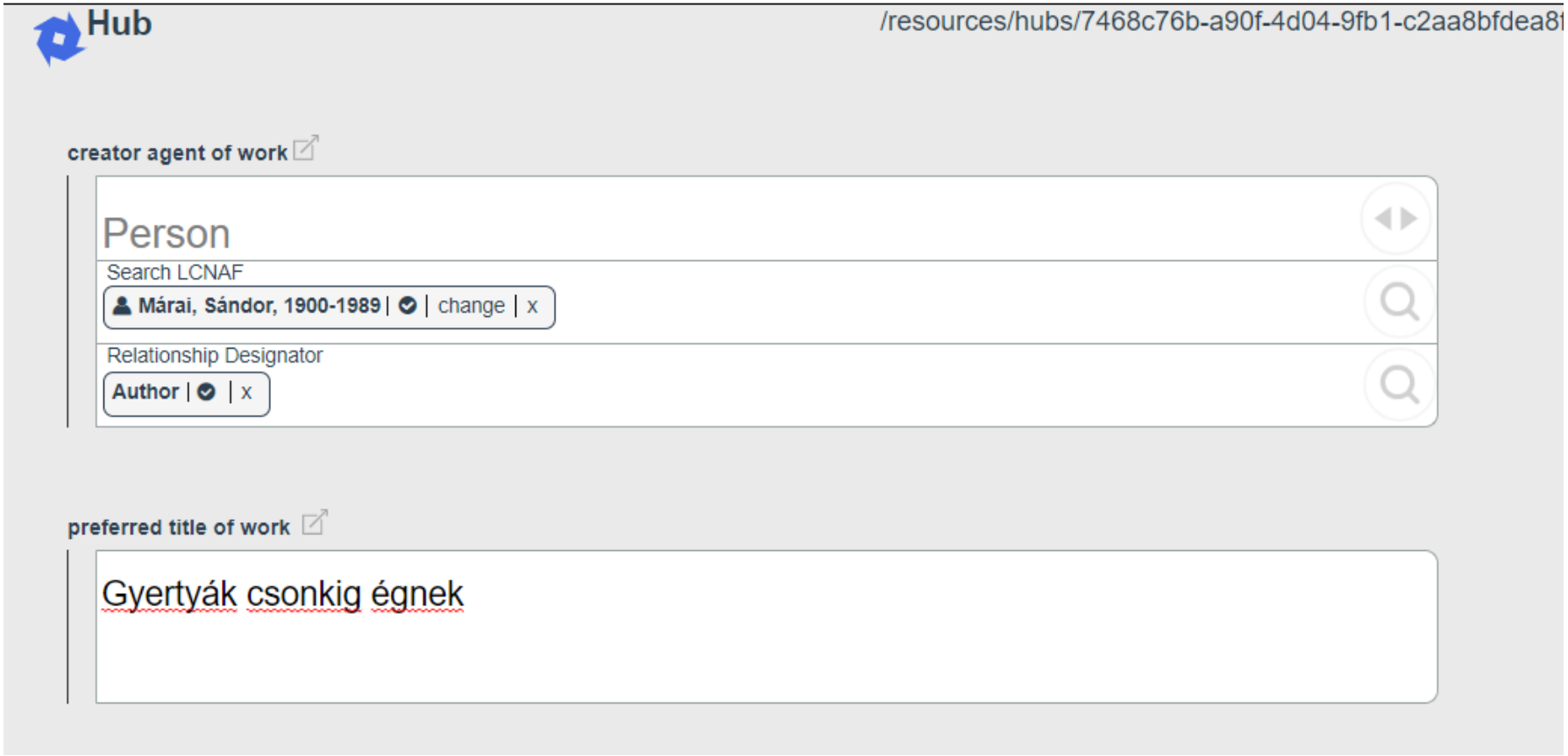
- A translation is not a new work but is an expression of the original-language work
- The relationship between the original-language work and the translation is inherent in the authorized access point
- Record syntaxes are in Original RDA

Translations: Individual

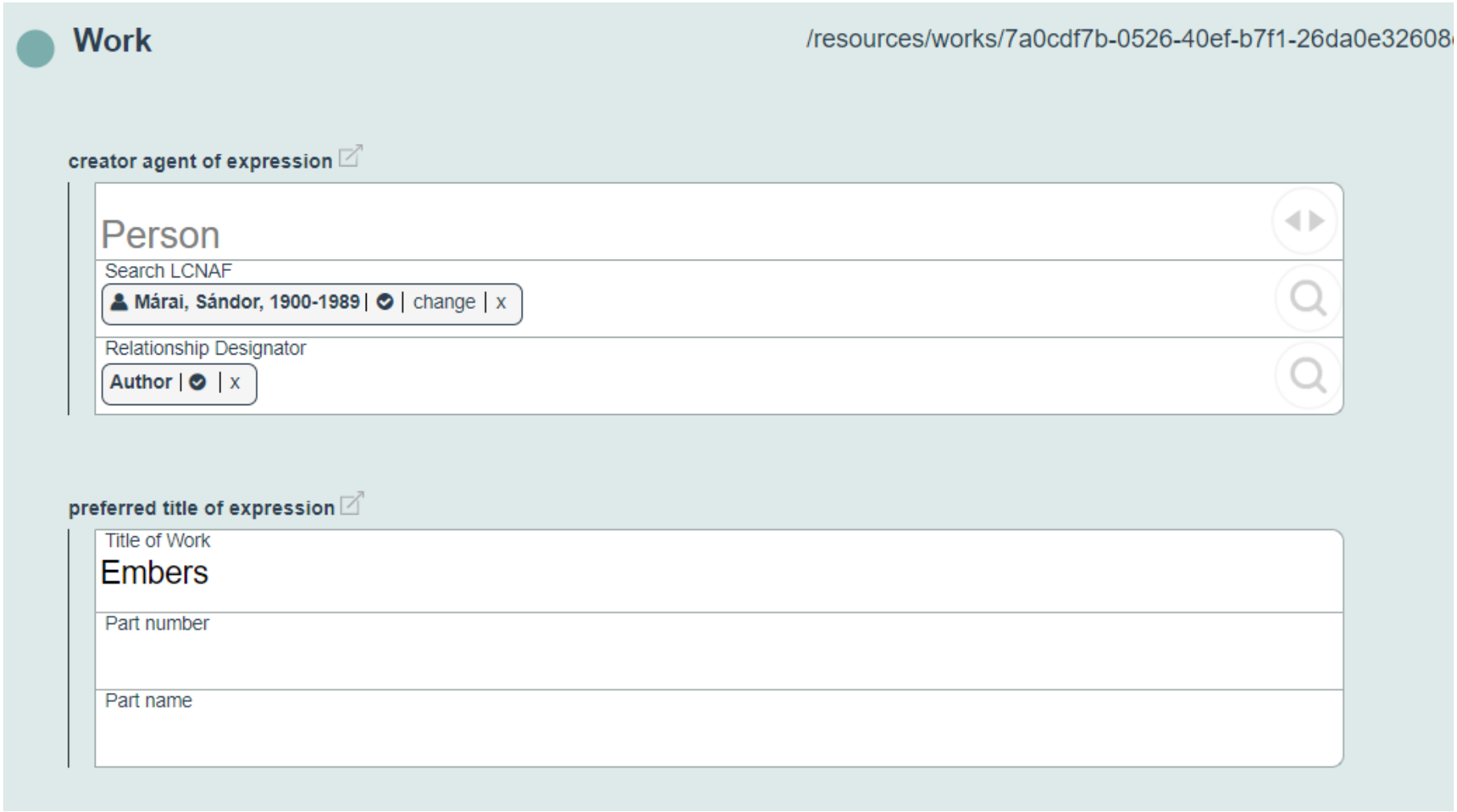
Solution:

- Show the relationship between the original-language expression and the translation as an explicit link:
- Entities > Expression > translation of ?
- Entities > Expression > related expression of expression ?

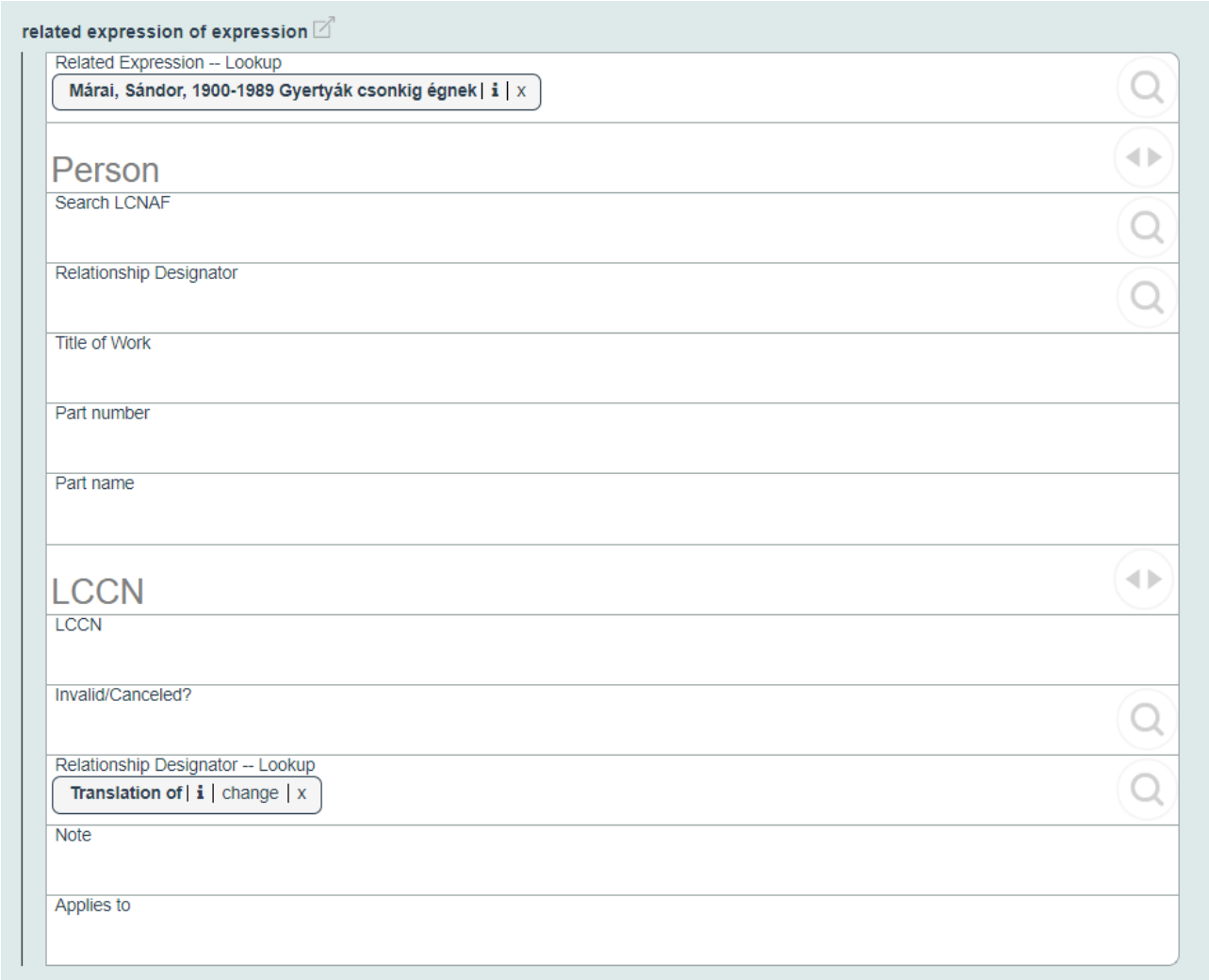
Marva Example



Marva Example



Marva Example



Representative Expression

Official RDA:

- An expression that is considered a canonical source of data for identifying a work
- Specific elements that can be added to work descriptions to identify the “canonical” expression

Representative Expression

Long-standing Practice / Original RDA:

- Conflation of work and original language expression
- Ontological ambiguity

Representative Expression

Solution:

- Representative Expression = “**Hub**” or super work
- Helps with the modeling difference due to the lack of a BIBFRAME expression entity

BIBFRAME Hubs / Work Groups

Official RDA:

- Has the four entities Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item
- Can you describe a work alone in an RDA bibliographic description?

BIBFRAME Hubs / Work Groups

Long-standing Practice / Original RDA:

- BIBFRAME does not have the expression entity – all RDA expressions are BIBFRAME Works
- BIBFRAME does not distinguish between bibliographic and authority (is this a MARC legacy?)

BIBFRAME Hubs / Work Groups

Solution:

- Let BIBFRAME **Hubs** facilitate the modeling differences
  - BIBFRAME **Hubs** = Works
  - BIBFRAME **Works** = Expressions
  - BIBFRAME **Instances** = Manifestations
  - BIBFRAME **Items** = Items
- Let MARC facilitate this by creating BIBFRAME Works as bibliographic records

What's Next?

- Test *Official* RDA in MARC with the status quo (current cataloging policy)
- See where the difficulties are when expressing *Official* RDA data in MARC
- Can BIBFRAME make more semantic sense in the given situation?
- Pilot *Official* RDA in BIBFRAME scenario
- Test out these new aspects (the things we just looked at) of *Official* RDA in BIBFRAME

What's Next?

- Lobby for these changes to make them official policy – if they work
- Strike a balance between RDA's granularity and BIBFRAME's agility
- Test with catalogers who are not familiar at all with MARC
- You can probably think of some other next steps – there are lots!

Thank you!