**Follow-up on the Report of the Joint GNCRT/SAC Working Group**

**on Subject Headings Guidance for Comics and Comic Characters**

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The Library of Congress was quite receptive to the report of the joint GNCRT/SAC Working Group, and to the proposal to revise Subject Headings Manual Instruction H 1430, pertaining to comics and comic characters. After some back-and-forth, the revision was finalized on 5/27/22. The revised version can be found in Cataloger’s Desktop, and on the [Subject Headings Manual PDFs](https://www.loc.gov/aba/publications/FreeSHM/freeshm.html) page. The Working Group appreciates the care and attention that the Library of Congress put into drafting the revised instruction, and to responding to suggestions and critiques from the Working Group.

Notable changes to the revision from the discussion period include clarifying that section 5 (on comics history and criticism) pertains to criticism of both fictional and nonfiction comics. As reported in the [Summary of Decisions for Editorial Meeting Number 2203](https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/cpsoed/psd-220318.html), this section also contains a new free-floating subdivision "$x In comics" that can be used under names of individual persons, families, corporate bodies, and countries, cities etc., Christian denominations and uniform titles of sacred works, and under names of deities, mythological or legendary figures, and fictitious characters. This subdivision was established under a pattern created by Allison Bailund of San Diego State University with the proposal "Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945), in comics," approved on the April 2022 Tentative List. The pattern also opens the door for future headings of the type “[Topic] in comics,” with “War in comics” proposed and approved to be used in the revised H 1430 text in one of the example records.

The final form of the revised H 1430 does not match the proposed revision in all respects. It is very similar, though; and very welcome, as it vastly increases the range of subjects that can be applied to both fictional and nonfiction comics. The biggest disappointment was the removal of all text and examples that specifically mentioned manga. A separate report by the GNCRT Metadata and Cataloging Committee to be introduced in the “new business” section of this meeting seeks to address this omission, by advocating for the inclusion of “Manga” as a term in the LCGFT vocabulary (and preferably also in the LCSH).