EDItEUR updates *Thema* subject category scheme

1st December 2014 – EDItEUR has released *Thema* 1.1, an updated version of the subject classification system intended for use throughout the global book and e-book trade.

EDItEUR and its *Thema* International Steering Committee have announced the release of version 1.1 of *Thema*, the new subject classification scheme that has quickly gained international acceptance since its launch in 2013.

Building on the experience of early adopters, suggestions from national *Thema* user groups in many countries, and analysis of *Thema* translations and mappings, the new version includes around 120 new subject categories, 90 new qualifiers, and roughly 200 other minor editorial changes. These additions increase the power and expressivity of *Thema* classifications. No categories from version 1.0 have been significantly modified or deleted, so existing metadata remains valid and does not need revision.

Version 1.1 is currently available in full only in English, but translations in several languages are being updated. The updated scheme and a growing range of other resources are available via the EDItEUR website (see http://www.editeur.org/151/thema). An online multilingual *Thema* subject browser is available at http://editeur.dyndns.org/thema (in Arabic, Japanese and a range of European languages).

For further information, please contact Graham Bell, Executive Director at EDItEUR (graham@editeur.org) or Howard Willows, Senior Manager Data Development at Nielsen and chair of the *Thema* International Steering Committee (howard.willows@nielsen.com).

Notes for editors

Thema is a book subject classification scheme that meets the needs of the global book trade, and can be used alongside or in place of the many national classification schemes – for example, BIC in the UK, BISAC in North America, CLIL in France, WGS in the German market. Using a single, globally-relevant and free-to-use scheme reduces costs and duplication of effort, increases metadata quality, streamlines the international exchange of metadata, and eliminates the need for complex and difficult to manage scheme-to-scheme mappings.

EDItEUR is the international standards body for the global book, e-book and serial supply chains. It is best known for developing ONIX for Books, the standard for communication of rich product metadata which is widely implemented in the book and e-book supply chains across North America, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region. Based in London, EDItEUR is supported by more than 110 members in 23 countries, and maintains a range of descriptive metadata and transactional message standards in the ONIX, EDItX, ICEDIS and EDIFACT families. EDItEUR also provides management services to the International ISBN Agency, coordinating 150+ national ISBN agencies in countries around the world, and provides a limited secretariat service to the International ISNI and ISTC agencies.