

Thesaurus-Bulletin: A library thesaurus in flux

The BAB's library thesaurus is not static. As socio-political or geographic changes occur, whether global, regional, or language-related, these changes are reflected in the thesaurus as much as possible. In order to keep track of which changes were made, the library maintains a bulletin, from which an excerpt with brief explanations will serve as an illustration here.

Examples of name changes due to new territorial designations

- 19.08.2008 *Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo)* changed and put *Zaire* as synonym
- 22.08.2008 *Congo (Republic of the Congo)* instead of *Congo*
- 31.01.2014 *Caprivi* changed into *Zambezi (Region)* due to name changing
- 31.01.2014 *Caprivi* inserted as synonym of *Zambezi (Region)*
- 31.01.2014 *!Nami#Nüs Town* inserted as synonym of *Lüderitz*
- 06.12.2019 *Swaziland* renamed *Eswatini*.
Swaziland as synonym

New form keywords due to cataloguing of new media (posters, calendars, stamps)

- 05.01.2012 Inserted form keywords *Advertising Poster, Event Poster, Political Poster, Awareness Poster*
- 18.07.2013 Inserted *Educational Calendar, Commercial Calendar, Political Calendar* under *Form*
- 07.02.2020 Inserted *Postage Stamp* as subcategory of *Form*

Examples of new keywords as a specific subcategory due to new additions that include said keyword

- 17.01.2020 Inserted *Rugby* as subcategory of *Sports and Games* and assigned retrospectively
- 19.05.2020 Inserted *Boxing* under *Sports and Games*
- 08.07.2020 Inserted *Cricket* under *Sports and Games*
- 10.07.2020 Replaced *Sports and Games* with *Sport*
- 10.07.2020 Inserted *Recreation* with synonym *Leisure*
- 10.07.2020 Inserted *Games* under *Recreation*
- 10.07.2020 Inserted *Athletics* under *Sport*

Examples of renaming due to developments in technology, gender-appropriate language, developments in terminology or global events

- 24.02.2009 Inserted *Information and computer technology* and put above *Computer Technology and Internet*. Hence redefining *Telecommunications* and commented on all designations. *Technology* as head keyword.
- 17.01.2020 German version of *Physicians (Ärzte)* renamed *Ärztinnen / Ärzte* with synonym *Ärzte* as to include both male and female doctors. Also introduced to other job titles.
- 17.01.2020 German term *Kleriker (Clerics)* renamed *Geistliche* with synonym *Kleriker* to avoid only male designation.
- 17.01.2020 German term *Politiker (Politicians)* renamed *PolitikerInnen* with synonym *Politiker*
- 17.01.2020 German term *Briten in Afrika (British in Africa)* renamed *Britinnen / Briten in Afrika* with synonym *Briten in Afrika*. Also introduced to other nationality designations being in Africa.
- 10.07.2020 *Homosexuality* replaced with *LGTBQ+* with synonyms *Homosexuality* and *Queer Studies* and moved from under *Sexuality* to the first level.
- 16.09.2020 *COVID-19* introduced under *Diseases*