Preface

Welcome to the 38th edition of the Publishers’ International ISBN Directory. As last year, the Directory will be available online as well as in print, thus benefiting from further enhanced search facilities. The International ISBN Agency thanks our colleagues at de Gruyter for their support and patience while we collect and aggregate the publisher and ISBN prefix data from ISBN agencies all over the world.

Both the print and online edition are based on the same data. The online version also includes details of historical and inactive publishers, as well as autor publishers, one of the largest areas of growth within publishing today.

Some ISBN agencies have submitted data to the Directory for the first time this year such as Uzbekistan and Mali. We welcome all these additions to the comprehensiveness of the Directory.

This year’s edition of the Publishers’ International ISBN Directory contains 883,366 publishers from 212 countries and territories in its geographical section. This is an increase of 6% since the last edition. The numerical section contains 985,958 ISBN prefixes.

ISBN is a mature international standard, used and recognised for more than 40 years in most of the countries of the world. For that reason, it is relatively rare for new countries and agencies to adopt the system. In the last year we welcomed an application from Oman to join the ISBN system and it is expected that there will be an operational ISBN agency there soon.

Finally, the International ISBN Agency and de Gruyter would like to thank all those who contributed to the compilation and editing of the Directory, especially the ISBN agencies all over the world that contributed data about ISBN assignments.

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