

To the
OCLC Headquarters
6565 Kilgour Place
Dublin, Ohio 43017
United States

Josefsplatz 1, A-1015 Wien
Postfach 25
Tel.: (+43 1) 534 10-430
Fax: (+43 1) 534 10-445
www.onb.ac.at
josef.steiner@onb.ac.at

Dr. Josef Steiner
Head
Department for Collection Development
and Processing

31. Juli 2015

Ihr Zeichen: [Hier klicken]

Unser Zeichen: [Hier klicken]

**Subject: The use of the DDC at the Austrian National Library and in other
Austrian libraries**

Dear Sirs and Madams,

Traditionally, subject access in Austrian scientific libraries has been by a unified system of subject headings (the Schlagwortnormdatei). Within the last 15 years, the need for an additional use of classifications has been felt. There has been no unified solution within the Austrian Library Network, but the following libraries opted for the use of the DDC:

- AK-Bibliothek Wien: uses abbreviated notations for shelving and will soon adapt DDC for indexing
- Bibliothek der Oesterreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (Library of the Academy of Sciences): partly uses DDC for indexing
- Bibliothek der Technischen Universität Wien (Library of the Technical University Vienna): DDC is used for indexing in some departments
- Oberoesterreichische Landesbibliothek (Upper Austrian Federal State Library): uses DDC23 for indexing and shelving
- Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek (Austrian National Library): uses DDC for subject categories in the Austrian National bibliography
- Universitätsbibliothek Wien (Library and Archive Services of the University of Vienna): is preparing for using DDC for indexing

As Austrian National Library of an institutional member of the European Dewey Users Group (and thus in the name of all other Austrian DDC users) we would like to point out the following conditions for an ongoing high level classification based on the DDC:

- As classifiers with the DDC we need an up-to-date edition, particularly with regard to European circumstances, that allows us to classify incoming publications accurately.
- As users of WebDewey Deutsch we depend on a technically and functionally state-of-the-art tool to allow classifiers as well as end users efficient work with and use of Dewey classifications.
- As users of WebDewey Deutsch Search we are interested in further advancement of this tool to enable end users to browse within the hierarchies.
- As users of DDC classes we rely on permanently updated entries to use them as access points in our online catalogues and search engines.

To secure and hopefully strengthen the value of the DDC as a means for classification in Austria we rely on a continuous advancement with regards to content, competent technical development, and reliable personal support.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Josef Steiner

