

Best Practice: Citation of resources, version 2.0¹

The usage and analysis of research data as well as the publication of research results require information on author, location and identification of data. On the basis of the da|ra metadata schema 3.0 (May 2014) da|ra recommends the following citation style for registered resources, which is also applied in its own information system:

Creator (Publication date): Title. Version. Publication agent. General resource type. Identifier

Creator: The creators, i. e. primary researchers or authors are displayed in the order in which they were added. Only the name is used for people, not the affiliation. If only an institution is specified as the creator that is used (*see example 1*). The data about the creators can include up to five names, beyond that they are abbreviated with 'et. al.' (*see example 2*).

Publication date: The publication date is for the year in which the resource was published in digital form by the publication agent.

Title: Here, the main title of the resource and any additional title must be indicated. Additional titles include:

- a) **Other titles:** All subtitles must be stated in the citation. Main and subtitles are separated with ".". Alternative and translated as well as original titles are not quoted in the citation.
- b) **Collective title:** A collective title, if existent, is also specified in the citation (*see example 3*).

Version: The version represents the version number of the resource.

Publication agent: The publication agent is the name of the institution or of the data centre, which has published the resource. In the da|ra information system there are also entries that contain no publication agent. Then no publication agent is listed in the citation as well.

General resource type: The general resource type describes the general type of the resource. The resource types include collection, dataset, text, video, image, audio and interactive resource.

Identifier: The identifier is the *Digital Object Identifier* (DOI). It is displayed in the citation as a URL link including the necessary resolver and without "doi:".

There are also entries in the da|ra information system, that have no DOI but only an URL (Uniform Resource Locator). In these cases, the last access date follows the URL in the citation.

Examples for resource citations

These citation examples describe resources of da|ra publication agents. They show you how the optimal data citation should look like and how the citation for registered resources is implemented in the da|ra information system respectively.

GESIS Panel Team (2014): GESIS Panel - Standard Edition. Version: 2.0.0. GESIS Datenarchiv. Dataset. <http://doi.org/10.4232/1.11947>

Markowski, Radoslaw; Gebethner, Stanislaw; Grabowska, Mirosława; Grzelak, Paweł; Jasiewicz, Krzysztof et. al. (2006): Polish National Election Study 2000 (PGSW). Version: 1.0.0. GESIS Data Archive. Dataset. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4232/1.4334>

Wagner, Michael; Valdés Cifuentes, Isabel (2014): The Pluralisation of Living Arrangements – A Continuous Trend?. Comparative Population Studies. Version: 1.0.0. CPoS – Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB). Text. <http://doi.org/10.12765/CPoS-2014-03en>

¹ The recommendations are based on the instructions in the [DataCite metadata schema](#), version 3.0 (January 2014).