

ISNI SRU Search API: Guidelines and Examples

Introduction

There are 2 levels of SRU enquiry to the ISNI database, one of which is freely available and the other restricted to ISNI members (board members, data contributors and Registration Agencies (RAGs)). These are realized by two logical databases, one of which is IP and password controlled. For the freely available access, there is protection against unreasonable usage volumes.

The API is using the [SRU standard](#), version 1.1.

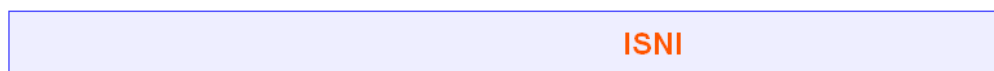
There are 2 XML schemas available for the results, ISNI basic (free access) and ISNI extended (member access).

Free access

The base URL for this service is:

<http://isni.oclc.org/sru/DB=1.2/>

If you enter the URL without a subsequent parameter, the SRU explain record is returned. This record is rendered in the browser with a style-sheet showing the options for searching and record formats to return



ISNI basic service

Search

Search

Index	Relation	Term	Boolean
(pica)ISNI Number (ISN:)	= <input type="text"/>		and <input type="text"/>
(pica)ISNI status (ST:)	= <input type="text"/>		and <input type="text"/>
(pica)Name (NA:)	= <input type="text"/>		and <input type="text"/>
(pica)Name Keyword (NV:)	= <input type="text"/>		and <input type="text"/>
(pica)Superseded Number (XN:)	= <input type="text"/>		and <input type="text"/>

Record Schema:

Number of Records:

Record Position:

Record Packing:

Sort Keys:

Groupings:

Search

There are two main ways to search, by ISNI or by name keyword.



Example search by name keyword (pica.nw):

<http://isni.oclc.org/sru/?query=pica.nw+%3D+%22maloy%2Brebecca%22&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-b>

This search is for the any records containing both “Rebecca” and “Maloy” in the name

Example search by ISNI:

<http://isni.oclc.org/sru/?query=pica.isn+%3D+%220000000115677274%22&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-b>

It is also possible to search by exact name in the format “surname, forename”: example:

<http://isni.oclc.org/sru/?query=pica.na+%3D+%22maloy%2C+rebecca%22&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-b>

This search is a more precise search for the author “Maloy, Rebecca”.

There is only one record format returned, the basic format. This uses the XML schema ISNI enquiry response.xsd.

This is the response for the search above:

```
<srw:recordData>
  <responseRecord>
    <ISNIAssigned>
      <isniUnformatted>0000000115677274</isniUnformatted>
      <isniURI>http://isni.org/isni/0000000115677274</isniURI>
      <ISNIMetadata>
        <identity>
          <personOrFiction>
            <personalName>
              <nameUse>public</nameUse>
              <surname>Maloy</surname>
              <forename>Rebecca Ann</forename>
              <source>PROQ</source>
            </personalName>
            <personalName>
              <nameUse>public</nameUse>
              <surname>Maloy</surname>
              <forename>Rebecca Ann</forename>
              <source>AMS</source>
            </personalName>
            <personalName>
              <nameUse>public</nameUse>
              <surname>Maloy</surname>
              <forename>Rebecca Ann</forename>
              <source>VIAF</source><source>NUKAT</source>
            </personalName>
          </personOrFiction>
        </identity>
      </ISNIMetadata>
    </ISNIAssigned>
  </responseRecord>
</srw:recordData>
```

```
</personalName>
<personalName>
  <nameUse>public</nameUse>
  <surname>Maloy</surname>
  <forename>Rebecca Ann</forename>
  <source>VIAF</source><source>LC</source>
</personalName>
<personalName>
  <nameUse>public</nameUse>
  <surname>Maloy</surname>
  <forename>Rebecca Ann</forename>
  <source>VIAF</source><source>BAV</source>
</personalName>
<creativeActivity>
  <creationRole source="PROQ">AUT</creationRole>
  <creationRole source="AMS">"aut"</creationRole>
  <creationRole source="VIAF">au</creationRole>
  <creationClass source="AMS">"text"</creationClass>
  <creationClass source="VIAF">am</creationClass>
  <creationClass source="VIAF">am</creationClass>
  <creationClass source="VIAF">dm</creationClass>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@München, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Clm
    14965b</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@München, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Clm
    14965b</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@München, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Clm
    14965b</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@Tonary of Frutolf of Michelsberg</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@Tonary of Frutolf of Michelsberg</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@Inside the offertory</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@Inside the offertory</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>the @offertory chant</title>
  </titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@inside the offertory</title></titleOfWork>
  <titleOfWork source="VIAF">
    <title>@München, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Clm
    14965b the tonary of Frutolf of Michelsberg [ff.34-73v]
    </title></titleOfWork>
  <identifier>
    <identifierType>ISBN</identifierType>
```

```
      <identifierValue>9781896926759</identifierValue>
      <source>VIAF</source></identifier>
    <identifier>
      <identifierType>ISBN</identifierType>
      <identifierValue>9781896926759</identifierValue>
      <source>VIAF</source></identifier>
    <identifier>
      <identifierType>ISBN</identifierType>
      <identifierValue>9781896926759</identifierValue>
      <source>VIAF</source></identifier>
    <identifier>
      <identifierType>ISBN</identifierType>
      <identifierValue>9780195315172</identifierValue>
      <source>VIAF</source></identifier>
    <identifier>
      <identifierType>ISBN</identifierType>
      <identifierValue>9780195315172</identifierValue>
      <source>VIAF</source></identifier>
  </creativeActivity>
</personOrFiction>
</identity>
<sources>
  <codeOfSource>VIAF</codeOfSource>
  <sourceIdentifier>39671569</sourceIdentifier>
  <reference>
    <class>ALL</class>
    <role>CRE</role>
    <URL>http://viaf.org/viaf/39671569</URL>
  </reference>
</sources>
<sources>
  <codeOfSource>AMS</codeOfSource>
  <sourceIdentifier>1970.00</sourceIdentifier>
</sources>
<sources>
  <codeOfSource>PROQ</codeOfSource>
  <sourceIdentifier>3014326</sourceIdentifier>
</sources>
</ISNIMetadata>
</ISNIAssigned>
</responseRecord>
</srw:recordData>
```



Members' version

The base URL for this service is:

<https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/> (ISNI members)

Note for this URL and all the examples in the table below it is necessary to replace "xxx" values for username and password.

Note also as from March 2014, http access does not work for the member database, only https.

If you enter the URL without a subsequent parameter, the SRU explain record is returned. This record is rendered in the browser with a style-sheet showing the options for searching and record formats to return.

In addition to the accesses for the free public access, the following accesses are possible:

Access Name	Command name	Example
Any keyword	aw	Example search for the words "peters" and "gerlach" in any indexed field https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.aw+%3D+Peters%2Bgerlach&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
ISBN	bn	https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.bn+%3D+9780192631695&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Country of publication	cnp	Example combining name keyword "mignon" and country of publication "fr" (France) (Note use ISO 3166-1 two character codes https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-1_alpha-2) https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.cnp+%3D+fr+and+pica.nw+%3D+mignon&version=1.1&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Decade of publication	dcp	Example combining name keyword "mignon" with decade of publication "197" (1970-1979) https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.dcp+%3D+197+and+pica.nw+%3D+mignon&version=1.1&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e

Dates of identity	dti	Example combining name keyword and birth date (note only publically available dates are displayed) https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.dti+%3D+1970-+and+pica.nw+%3D+mignon&version=1.1&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Insert date	ins	Example combing insert date "2011-10-12" and source code "AMS" https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.ins+%3D+20111011+and+pica.cn+%3D+AMS*&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Language of identity	pica.lni	Example search combining title keyword "sand" and language of identity "fre" (Note use ISO 639-2, three character code http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/iso639-2) https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.lni+%3D+fre+and+pica.tw+%3D+sand&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Other resource identifier	pica.lsn	Example search for by DOI "doi 101001 archderm1418985" https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.lsn+%3D+doi%2B101001%2Barchderm1418985&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Note keyword	pica.nt	Example search for a note containing the word "possible" https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.nt+%3D+possible&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Publisher keyword	pica.pw	Example search for a publisher containing the word "macmillan" but not the title keyword "encyclopedia" https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.pw+%3D+macmillan+and+pica.tw%3C%3E+encyclopedia&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e
Standard identifier	pica.si	Collective index for ISBN, ISSN and contributor identifiers Example: searching for ISBN 9780192631695 https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.si+%3D+9780192631695&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e

Record source	pica.src	<p>Example search for all unassigned records for source AMS (note that this string includes spaces so must be surrounded by a double quotation)</p> <p>https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.src+%3D+%22ams%22&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e</p>
Title keyword	pica.tw	<p>Example search combining name keyword "peters" and title keyword "sand"</p> <p>https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.nw+%3D+peters+and+pica.tw+%3D+sand&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e</p>
Contributor identifier	pica.cn	<p>Example searching for the VIAF identifier pica.cn+%3D+"VIAF 77823260" (note that this string includes spaces so must be surrounded by a double quotation)</p> <p>https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.cn+%3D+%22VIAF%2077823260%22+%&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e</p> <p>Example search for all assigned records for source AMS</p> <p>https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.cn+%3D+ams*+and+pica.st+%3D+a&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e</p>
Pica identifier	pica.ppn	<p>Example search for a record by PPN 067467237 (no ISNI assigned yet)</p> <p>https://isni-m.oclc.org/sru/username=xxx/password=xxx/DB=1.3/?query=pica.ppn+%3D+067467237&operation=searchRetrieve&recordSchema=isni-e</p>

In the member access, it is possible to specify either isni-b (basic details) or isni-e (extended details) for the response record. Both use the same XML schema ISNI enquiry response.xsd. Below is a summary of detail at each level:

isni-b (limited to assigned)

Name – surname and forename



Freely available dates
Name variants
Creation class
Creation role
Freely available title information (e.g. titles supplied by VIAF libraries)
Freely available “contributed to”, e.g. journal titles, collected works
Freely available resource identifiers, e.g. ISBN, ISRC

isni-e (can include those not assigned)

Detail as for isni-b, plus:

Related persons
Related organisations
Nationality
Gender
Keyword or key phrase
Dewey classification
Publishers
Dates active
Associated countries
Possible merges

Version	Date	Comment
1	2011-10-27	First draft, incomplete
1.1	2011-11-22	Janifer Gatenby – updated with environments and more examples
1.2	2011-11-25	Minor corrections; inclusion of additional data in isni-e
1.3	2011-12-05	Corrections to URLs and examples
1.4	2011-12-08	Removed redundant quotations from example queries; using * correctly for truncation mark
2	2012-07-31	Updated XML example to align with enquiry response schema v2

3	2014-03-04	Changed member access to https
---	------------	--------------------------------