

# Proposed Requirements for IPTC Topics v2

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## Meta requirements

The process of selecting a solution must include a review of the suitability of the various existing standards, such as RDF and Topic Maps.

The proposed solution must be accompanied by a broad set of use cases.

The proposed solution must be accompanied by a list of capabilities supported by Topics v1.x but not supported by Topics v2 (if there are any).

## Quantitative and timing issues

The solution must allow the on-the-fly creation and use of Topics.

The solution must allow Ontologies containing hundreds of thousands of Topics.

The solution must allow the use of a Topic without the publication of a document listing all Topics.

## Pointing to Topics

The solution must allow the use of an invariant Topic identification mechanism, using URIs.

The solution must allow Topics to point to other Topics, using URIs.

The solution must allow a Topic to have zero or more URI-based links to Parent Topics (this could be a proprietary extension).

The solution should provide a URI-based mechanism for stating that Topic X is equivalent to Topic Y.

### **Use in NewsML**

It must be easy to include Topics in NewsML (whether or not they have been previously defined).

It must be easy to associate an Importance (High, Medium, Low) with the use of a Topic in NewsML.

### **Extensibility**

It must be easy to enhance Topics, using namespaced elements and attributes.

### **Use with textual content**

It must be easy to reference Topics from textual content, using inline markup and URIs.

### **Schemes**

The solution must associate each Scheme with a URI.

The solution must allow a Topic to have Values from multiple Schemes.

The solution must allow a Topic to have multiple Values from the same Scheme.

### **Topic Types**

The solution must support Topic Types.

The solution must associate each Topic Type with a URI.

### **Descriptions**

The solution must support Descriptions in many languages.

The solution must support multiple Descriptions, with specified roles/characteristics.

### **Multiple flavours of a Topic**

The solution must allow the publication of multiple flavours of the same Topic, eg concise vs verbose, English vs Japanese. The publisher of a Topic may choose to publish a single Topic, with Descriptions in all supported languages, or multiple flavours of the Topic, each supporting one language).