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Report of the working groups

Report of the Working Group on Exonyms

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1 Organizational aspects

The initial proposal for this Working Group (WG) was made at the 2nd GeoNames Meeting in October 2001 in Berchtesgaden (Germany). In 2002 the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in Berlin established this WG by Resolution VIII/4 specifying its tasks with taking measures for "the categorization of exonym use, the publication of pronunciation guides for endonyms and the formulation of guidelines ensuring a politically sensitive use of exonyms".

WG meetings were held

- in **Berlin**, September 6, 2002, in the framework of the 8th UN Conference
- in **Prague** [Praha], September 24-26, 2003, hosted by the Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre
- in **New York**, 2004, in the framework of the 22nd UNGEGN Session
- in **Ljubljana**, May 19-20, 2005, hosted by the Anton Melik Geographical Institute of the Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- in **Vienna** [Wien], 2006, in the framework of the 23nd UNGEGN Session
- in **Prague** [Praha], May 17-18, 2007, hosted by the Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre.

Currently the Working Group has 25 official members from 16 countries (see Appendix 2), but some meetings, especially these in Prague, Ljubljana and Vienna were attended by a much larger number of UNGEGN experts as well as of other interested persons. The elected convener is Milan Orožen Adamič (Slovenia, milan@zrc-sazu.si). At the 3rd WG Meeting in New York, Peter Jordan (Austria, peter.Jordan@univie.ac.at, peter.Jordan@oeaw.ac.at) was elected co-convener and since 2006 he substitutes the convener, after the latter had been appointed Slovenian ambassador in Croatia. The WG maintains a website accessible under http://www.zrc-sazu.si/wge

2 Achievements

Five items deserve to be highlighted among the activities conducted by the Working Group on Exonyms since its foundation by the 8th UN Conference in 2002:

- **New definitions** of endonym and exonym were after extensive discussion accepted by consensus and in accordance with the WG on Terminology proposed for inclusion into the UNGEGN Glossary on Toponymic Terminology:
  Endonym Name of a geographical feature in an official or well-established language occurring in that area where the feature is located. *Examples* Vārānasī (not Benares); Aachen (not Aix-la-Chapelle); Krung Thep (not Bangkok); al-Uqṣur (not Luxor); Teverya (not Tiberias).

Exonym   Name used in a specific language for a geographical feature situated outside the area where that language is spoken, and differing in its form from the name used in an official or well-established language of that area where the geographical feature is located. *Examples:* Warsaw is the English exonym for Warszawa; Londres is French for London; Mailand is German for Milano. The officially romanized endonym Moskva for Москва is not an exonym, nor is the Pinyin form Beijing, while Peking is an exonym.

- **Book on exonyms** (see also individual WP): This book was published in 2007 within the series "Viennese East European Studies" [Wiener Osteuropastudien] and contains most of the papers presented at Working Group on Exonyms meetings, mainly at the meetings in Prague (2003) and Ljubljana (2005), plus some additional contributions. The discussion on definitions is an integral part of the book. But the book also highlights the exonym question in general from a multi- and interdisciplinary perspective. It examines the benefits of exonyms, the current trends of exonym use, and the standardization efforts related to exonyms on the national as well as on the international (UN) level. It is supplemented by a bibliography including further important reference works. The book may be considered as a first comprehensive reader on the topic of exonyms as well as the first tangible product of the Working Group on Exonyms.

  The book may be ordered directly with the publisher LIT Verlag, Grevener Str./Fresnostr. 2, D-48159 Münster (http://www.lit-verlag.de, vertrieb@lit-verlag.de) or via Peter Jordan, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Urban and Regional Research, Postgasse 7/4/2, A-1010 Wien (www.oeaw.ac.at/isr), peter.jordan@oeaw.ac.at, peter.jordan@univie.ac.at

- The **inclusion of exonyms in the UNGEGN database** was discussed and welcomed. The WG supported a reduction in the number of name category fields from three to two: endonym and variant.

- The **EuroGeoNames database project** was supported by the WG, and the questions of furnishing it with exonyms as well as of creating synergies with the UNGEGN database project was discussed.

- The questions of the **categorization of exonyms** as well as **criteria for exonym use** were intensively discussed especially at the Prague 2007 meeting (see also individual WP) and progress was made as regards the elaboration of guidelines for the use of exonyms.

Appendix 1: Papers presented at the WG meetings (in the sequence of their presentation)

WG Meeting Prague 2003:

Helen KERFOOT (CAN): Texts of resolutions on the subject of exonyms
Paul WOODMAN (UK): The UNGEGN definitions of "endonym" and "exonym"
Paul WOODMAN (UK): Exonyms and UNGEGN: an unhappy history
Peter JORDAN (A): Criteria for the use of exonyms
Peeter PÄLL (EST): Endonyms/exonyms and writing systems
Milan HARVALIK (CZ): Endonyms vs. exonyms. A linguistic view of the determination of the boundaries between them
Paul WOODMAN (UK): Exonyms: A structural classification and a fresh approach
Milan OROŽEN ADAMIČ (SI): Treatment of geographical names in multilingual areas
Pavel BOHAĆ (CZ): On the disappearance of exonyms
Drago KLADNIK, Milan OROŽEN ADAMIČ (SI): Types of exonyms in Slovene language

WG Meeting Ljubljana 2005:

Paul WOODMAN (UK): Man, his terrain and his toponyms
Peter JORDAN (A): Considerations on the relative definitions of exonym and endonym
Jarno RAUKKO (SF): A linguistic classification of exonyms
Naftali KADMON (ISR): Exonyms and endonyms – as viewed from the Working Group on Terminology
Béla POKOLY (H): Hungarian exonyms
Caroline BURGESS, Catharine CHEETHAM (UK): The inclusion of exonyms in the UNGEGN Data Base on Geographical Names
Drago KLADNIK (SI): The beginning of the use of foreign names in Slovene language
Jörn SIEVERS (D): The consideration of exonyms in the EuroGeoNames project
Milan OROŽEN ADAMIČ (SI): A database of country and major city names being designed by the UNGEGN Secretariat
Pavel BOHAĆ (CZ): The list of Czech exonyms
Peeter PÄLL (EST): Principles and composition of Estonian exonyms
Roman STANI-FERTL (A): Standardized exonyms
Sungjae CHOO (KOR): Exonyms created during the Japanese colonial period (1910-1945) in Korea

WG Meeting Prague 2007:

Peter JORDAN (A): Criteria for the use of exonyms
Botov HELLELAND (N): Exonyms from a Norwegian point of view
Paul WOODMAN (UK): The toponymy of the Czech lands as reflected in Britain
Peeter PÄLL (EST): Some reflection on extending the notion of exonyms/endonyms into history
Maciej ZYCH (PL): Definition of exonym applied by the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names
Tomáš BERÁNEK (CZ): A new list of Czech exonyms
Jörn SIEVERS (D): Status report on the EuroGeoNames Project
Pier-Giorgio ZACCHEDDU (D): EGN conceptual data model, version 1.x
Roman STANI-FERTL (A): Status report on identifying, evaluating and assessing variant names
Paul WOODMAN (UK): English-language exonyms for the EGN project

Béla POKOLY, András DUTKO (H): Exonyms of the Hungarian language, list of Hungarian exonyms
Remus CREȚAN (RO): German exonyms viewed in the microtoponymy of the Romanian Banat region
Hubert BERGMANN (A): Observations on the use of exonyms in Austrian daily newspapers
Baiba AUSTERE, Zane CERULA (LET): Exonyms and principles of writing foreign place names in Latvia
Drago KLADNIK, Mimi URBANC (SI): An approach to the standardisation of exonyms in Slovene language
Dunja BROZOVIĆ RONČEVIĆ (HR): The use of exonyms in Croatia
Maciej ZYCH (PL): Problems of standardizing names which are not formally exonyms; categories of Polish exonyms
Helen KERFOOT (CAN): UNGEGN Geographical Names Data Base

Appendix 2: List of WG members

1.	**Boháč**	Pavel	Czech Republic
2.	**Burgess**	Caroline	United Kingdom
3.	**Brozović Rončević**	Dunja	Croatia
4.	**Cheetham**	Catherine	United Kingdom
5.	**Crețan**	Remus	Romania
6.	**Dorion**	Henri	Canada
7.	**Dragomirescu**	Serban	Romania
8.	**Hausner**	Isolde	Austria
9.	**Jordan**	Peter	Austria
10.	**Kerfoot**	Helen	Canada
11.	**Kladnik**	Drago	Slovenia
12.	**Lee**	Ki-Suk	Republic of Korea
13.	**Lejeune**	Sylvie	France
14.	**Makridis**	Georgios	Greece
15.	**Nanova**	Milka	Bulgaria
16.	**Orožen Adamič**	Milan	Slovenia
17.	**Päll**	Peeter	Estonia
18.	**Pokoly**	Béla	Hungary
19.	**Ratovoarison**	Nivoarimanga	Madagascar
20.	**Sievers**	Jörn	Germany
21.	**Stani-Fertl**	Roman	Austria
22.	**Vassilatou**	Regina	Greece
23.	**Wolnicz-Pawlowska**	Ewa	Poland
24.	**Woodman**	Paul	United Kingdom
25.	**Zych**	Maciej	Poland