

**Twenty-eight session
28 April – 2 May 2014**

Item 14 of the Provisional Agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Exonyms

A gazetteer of Finnish Exonyms*

Submitted by Finland

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A gazetteer of Finnish exonyms**

In March 2013, the Institute for the Languages of Finland (ILF) published a book setting out exonyms used in Finnish.

The main contents of the book is presented in three tables. Table 1 contains around 2,500 standardized Finnish names for foreign places (Finnish exonyms) with corresponding local names (endonyms) and their feature type, location and language code. It also includes the corresponding English names and in many cases corresponding names in other languages, most often French and German. Table 2 presents all endonyms and their English names from Table 1 in alphabetical order and gives their Finnish equivalents. Table 3 explains the language codes of the endonyms and which romanization system has been used for names originally spelled in scripts other than the Roman alphabet.

The book also summarizes the rules by which the Finnish exonyms have been standardized; it gives an overview of how these rules came about, it enumerates the UN resolutions concerning exonyms, and it provides a list of earlier dictionaries and gazetteers that focus on the Finnish spelling of foreign place names.

The book is essentially a guide for Finnish journalists, translators, teachers and other professionals who use names for foreign places in their work. For the practical purposes of the book, a Finnish exonym is understood as a name for a place located outside Finland that is written differently from the corresponding endonym or – if the place (for example a river) has more than one exonym – at least one of its endonyms.

The book will also be made available on the Internet.

For more details about the book, see Sirkka Paikkala, “Finnish exonyms: a pragmatic approach to defining exonym and endonym”, in Peter JORDAN and Paul WOODMAN (eds.), *The Quest for Definitions. Proceedings of the 14th UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms, Corfu, 23-25 May 2013* (Hamburg: Dr. Kovač, 2014), pp. 249-256.

**HAKULINEN Kerkko, PAIKKALA Sirkka (2013), *Pariisista Papukaijannokkaan – suomenkieliset ulkomaiden paikannimet ja niiden vieraskieliset vastineet* [From Paris to Parrot’s Beak: Finnish names of foreign places and their equivalents in other languages]. Helsinki, Kotimaisten kielten keskus [Institute for the Languages of Finland]. ISBN 978-952-5446-80-7, ISSN 2242-461X. 492 pp. In Finnish only. Orders: julkaisumyynti@kotus.fi