

Tancament de la sessió (text anglès)

Intervenció de la directora general de Política Lingüística, senyora Yvonne Griley

Many thanks. First of all, I'd like to thank all the speakers for their participation in this session and the fact they've agreed to share with us their experience in the field of Toponymy as well as their working procedures. Also, I want to thank all the assistants their presence here today as well as their worthwhile contributions to the debate. Just as an ending, I'd like to highlight the international character of this encounter: among other countries, there has been here represented Canada, Estonia, the Republic of Korea, Australia, Norway, the Netherlands, France, the Czech Republic, Finland, the Republic of Argentina, Spain (with the Basque and Catalan governments), Denmark and Croatia.

For our Toponymy Committee and for the Government of Catalonia as well, events like this one mean a way of introducing and promoting the work carried out on this field in our country and of certifying our will of continuing working with the maximum scientific and technical rigor.

The toponyms have a technical, geographical, evident function; but also they have a cultural function, because they convey information about the culture, the language itself and the habits of people. In this sense, as I said at the beginning of this session, they are a collective patrimony which it is necessary to preserve as they are part of our linguistic and cultural inheritance.

Undoubtedly, to follow all these international recommendations pointed out by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names fruit of this encounter will help all of us to increase the quality of our work to better attain this common goal.

Thank you very much.