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**Eleventh United Nations Conference on the  
Standardization of Geographical Names**

New York, 8-17 August 2017

Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*

**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries and on the  
progress made in the standardization of geographical names since the Tenth Conference  
(for distribution only).**

**Report of Czech Republic**

Submitted by Czech Republic \*\*

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# Report of Czechia

## Names authorities

In compliance with the Parliamentary delegation, the position and functions of the national geographical names authorities are carried out by ministries and other relevant central offices. The chapter introduces individual authorities represented by representatives in the Commission on Geographical Names.

Relevant laws and other generally binding legal regulations are applied by various activities in the field of standardization of exonyms.

There are several main state bodies responsible for the names standardization: the Ministry of the Interior supervises the names of settlements, i.e. municipalities and their part; the Ministry of the Regional Development oversees the names of regional entities in relation to tourism; the Ministry of Agriculture cooperates on the water names; the Ministry of the Environment creates the names of protected landscape areas; the Czech Statistical Office standardizes the names of basic settlement units for purpose of the territorial planning, statistics and elections; CUZK is responsible for the names of cadastral units and for standardization of other names that are to be included in the database of standardized names (field names, oronyms etc.). Practical and administrative part of the process is carried out by the Secretariat of CCGN, including technical support.

## Names Sources

CUZK is the publisher of the State Map Series on the territory of the Czech Republic. The State Map Series consists of large-scale maps, medium-scale basic maps, maps of landscape units, maps of administrative division, sheet lines of the State Map Series, Thematic State Map Series and Cadastral Maps. Maps are published within various scales from 1: 1 000 to 1: 1 mil. in printed or digital forms, which are regularly renewed in a short period of time. Geographical information systems administered by the CUZK are called ZABAGED (Fundamental Base of Geographical Data of the Czech Republic) and Geonames. All, maps and visualized databases ZABAGED and Geonames, are available at the web site of the business module and map services of the CUZK. <http://www.geoportal.cuzk.cz>

The expert body of the CUZK for names standardization has been since 1971 the Commission on Geographical Names, which has been continuing in the same working structure since 2000. It is responsible for the database of Czech geographical names, whose administration and update is realized by the Land Survey Office. The database, which is called Geonames, was established in 1997 and names from the whole territory of the Czech Republic occurring on map sheets 1:10 000 were adopted into the database. 44 years later (in 2002) the standardization for this scale was completed and in 2005 all names were saved to Geonames database. At the same time update and renewal were ongoing.

The update of geographical names on cadastral maps in scale of 1: 1000 takes place within the scope of CUZK.

For more information please see UNGEGN Information Bulletin number 51. <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEKN/bulletin.html>

## **Names gazetteers and other publications**

- Language Rules for Standardization of Geographical Names on the Territory of the Czech Republic,
- Language Rules for Standardization of Geographical Names outside the Territory of the Czech Republic,
- Concept of Standardization of Geographical Names of the Czech Republic in the Years 2015-2020
- Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names, version 1.02
- Translation of the brochure UNGEGN Consistent use of Place Names

The CCGN has put together a database Names of the world which contains Names of states and their territorial parts and Czech names of seas and international territories including Antarctica. The database includes a list of Czech exonyms and names in a language of a specific country. It is possible to search the names on the Internet on this address: <http://jmenasveta.cuzk.cz>.

CCGN is preparing a database of Historical Names of Czechia; the 4<sup>th</sup> expanded and updated edition of Index of Exonyms and Methodological instruction how to adjust and take over names in languages of national minorities with focus on North Moravia.

More detailed information about publications can be found in the Inventory of exonym list Czechia 2016 which is an appendix to this report.

## **International Cooperation**

Czechia took part in the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNGEGN and the WG of Exonyms in New York in 2014 and in the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNGEGN and the WG of Exonyms in Bangkok in 2016.

CCGN regularly participates in meetings of working groups for exonyms which were held in Corfu, Zagreb, Hermagor, Bangkok and Prague. We have hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> Working Group on Exonyms meeting and Working Group on Romanization Systems meeting in Prague April 2017. A delegate from CCGN also took part in a meeting of East Central and South-East Europe Division of UNGEGN in Ljubljana in November 2015.

CCGN regularly meets with commissions on geographical names from neighbouring countries – Poland and Slovakia.

Standardized names are published in three European projects INSPIRE and ELF (European Local Framework) according to their specifications. Data with geographical names are also a part of another European project EuroGeoNames (EGN) within the project EuroGeoGraphic from the project EGG. In 2012 the whole content of Geonames was handed over to the project (EGN). Data are available to many users in different projects and through different user interfaces as you may get to know in detail from our contribution to UNGEGN Information Bulletin number 52.