Item 14 of the provisional agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Exonyms

Trends in Exonym Use

Proceedings of the 10ᵗʰ UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms Meeting, Tainach, 28-30 April 2010

Submitted by the Working Group on Exonyms[*]

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As the first volume of the new toponymic book series "Name & Place" edited by Peter JORDAN and Paul WOODMAN (publisher Dr. Kovač, Hamburg) the book "Trends in Exonym Use. Proceedings of the 10th UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms Meeting, Tainach, 28-30 April 2010" (328 pages), edited by Peter JORDAN, Hubert BERGMANN, Caroline BURGESS and Catherine CHEETHAM has recently been published and can be ordered on the publisher's website (www.verlagdrkovac.de).

The **new book series "Name & Place"** is open to all kinds of contributions to toponymic research and literature. Monographs as well as proceedings of meetings and conferences may find place here. UNGEGN experts are kindly invited to publish their works. Young researchers and their PhD theses are also very welcome. In the long run this series is to be a treasure trove of knowledge on the relation between name and place. Proposals for contributions are to be addressed to peter.jordan@oeaw.ac.at

The **contents of the first volume** reflect recent discussions in the Working Group of Exonyms as conducted at its 10th Meeting in Tainach (Austria).

One of them is the discussion on two basically divergent positions with reference to the endonym/exonym divide, which evolved in 2008 in the context of the naming of transboundary features. One of these positions confines the endonym status of a name to portions of a transboundary feature, where the name corresponds to the local language. The other position grants this status to all portions of such a feature. Part 1 of the book ("The endonym/exonym divide") contains papers relevant for this very topic. They show that always new arguments are brought forward in favour of the two diverging positions and that reconciliation between them is not really in sight. They also show that the endonym/exonym divide would require clarification also in several other points.

A second major item is the formulation of guidelines ensuring a politically sensitive use of exonyms as defined by Resolution VIII/4. The discussion on it gained momentum already at the 6th WGE Meeting in Prague [Praha] in 2007, but also developed in a rather controversial way. There is the position of adherents of the traditional UNGEGN policy to reduce exonym use as much as possible as opposed to the position of experts advocating adaptation to reality, an *aggiornamento*, and appreciating exonyms as a part of the cultural heritage. This contro-versy reflects itself on the one hand in a position wishing to offer not much more than a collection of principal statements expressed already by the various UN resolutions versus a position advocating rather detailed guidelines on the other. In support of this discussion this book offers an outlook to reality by presenting papers reporting on practice, policies and trends of exonym use in various countries and regions (Part 2).

Part 3 of this book comprises contributions with a focus on exonym use in a specific field such as name servers, country names, in a certain language for a certain country, for sea bodies and in dictionaries.

Part 4 is a kind of appendix highlighting place names in their cultural environment without special regard to exonyms.

The book may therefore – besides its general value as a cross-section through the state of the art in exonym research – be considered as an update on the discussions conducted in the UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms as well as another tangible (and hopefully also useful) product of this WG.

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