Item 14 of the Provisional Agenda

Activities relating to the Working Group on Exonyms

Confirmation of the Definitions
Proceedings of the 16th UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms
Meeting, Hermagor, 5-7 June 2014

Submitted by the Working Group on Exonyms *

*Prepared by Peter Jordan (Austria), Convenor, UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms
Summary and introduction

In its 16th Meeting in Hermagor, 5-7 June 2014, the UNGEGN Working Group on Exonyms was discussing a last time the endonym/exonym divide and potential new definitions of the endonym and the exonym. At this Meeting 18 papers were presented highlighting the general theme by comprehensive and macregional approaches as well as by experiences from individual countries.

The proceedings of this Meeting contain all the papers presented. They reflect a final attempt to replace the current UN definitions of the endonym and the exonym by more comprehensive definitions regarding officiality and language not as criteria for the endonyms/exonym divide. They represent thus the most elaborated versions of all the various proposals. Most striking is also the gap between the traditional approach of UNGEGN and a purely linguistic view at the endonym/exonym divide regarding an endonym as a place name corresponding to the rules of a certain language irrespective of the spatial relation between name user and feature. This purely linguistic approach is most significantly represented by the article of Phil Matthews. It is also worth noting that besides the convenor of the Working Group on Exonyms also the convenors of the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology (Staffan Nyström), the Working Group on Romanization Systems (Peeter Päll) and the Working Group on Evaluation and Implementation (Sungjae Choo) contributed.

The book has been edited by Peter Jordan and Paul Woodman, its layout has been provided by Florian Partl at the Institute of Urban and Regional Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, in Vienna.

Bibliographic citation


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Ordering the book
The book can be ordered from publisher Dr. Kovač, Hamburg, email: info@verlagdrkovac.de, website: http://www.verlagdrkovac.de/ It corresponds to Volume 4 of the toponymic book series “Name & Place” edited by Peter JORDAN and Paul WOODMAN.

Earlier volumes of this series are:
