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THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
Athens, Greece
17 August - 7 September 1977

Items 7 and 8 of the provisional agenda

REPORT ON THE SITUATION AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE
SINCE THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION. THE CYRILLIC AND THE
ROMAN WRITING SYSTEMS IN YUGOSLAVIA

CRITICAL REMARKS ON THE TREATMENT OF SOME
YUGOSLAV NAMES IN THE INTERNATIONAL USAGE

Papers presented by Yugoslavia

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Report on the situation and on
the progress made since the
Second United Nations Conference
on the Standardization of
Geographical Names.

National standardization. The
Cyrillic and the Roman writing
systems in Yugoslavia.

Critical remarks on the treatment
of some Yugoslav names in the
international usage.

INFORMATION PAPER
PRESENTED BY YUGOSLAVIA⁺

⁺ Prepared by M. Peterca, Yugoslavia

Delegation of Yugoslavia⁺ wants to confirm its agreement with the viewpoint that the standardization of geographical names is in the competence of the state where the described features are, which was expressed by several countries on the First United Nations Conference in Geneva; as follows that international standardization of geographical names can be based only on the national standardization.

The Recommendations of the Resolution 31 on "A common understanding of the aims and objects of the international standardization of geographical names" adopted by the Second Conference in London 1972, which reflect the above principles, can be good base for the succesful work of the Third Conference.

Report on the Situation and on the Progress made
since the Second United Nations Conference

The report Yugoslavia submitted on the Second Conference

⁺ For the objective reasons Yugoslavia could not send the documents till the time that could make possible including them into the official documents of the Conference. During the preparation of the official papers for this Conference Professor Branko Borčić, the eminent Yugoslav expert in this field, suddenly died and that, unfortunately, caused the cessation of the preparation. Wishing anyway to contribute to the succesful work of the Third Conference, in spite of this fact, Yugoslavia takes advantage of the possibility that point 4 of Information of ECOSOC with the mark E/CONF.69/1 from December 2nd, 1976, offers and which says that "documents that a Government may wish the Secretariat to distribute as information papers only, will be accepted at the Conference site."

in London 1972 contained the principles on which the questions of the standardization of geographical names are solved, having in mind the fact that Yugoslavia is the state in which several nations and nationalities live.

According to our viewpoints, the problems of geographical names should be observed as the integral part of the general principles about the right of nations and nationalities to use their own language, script and spelling. According to this, the right to use geographical names in their own language, script and spelling is integral, inseparable and inalienable part of the rest of social - political and economic rights of the members of all the nations and nationalities.

Our basic attitude is that the members of all the nations and nationalities, disregarding their number and administrative-political borders of their ethnic territories, have the right to use the names of geographical features in their own language, script and spelling. Geographical names should reflect objective picture of national belonging of the population to whose territory refer. We also support that the members of our nations who live out of the borders of those nations have adequate rights.

According to the Constitution, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is federal state consisted of six socialist republics: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia. There are also two autonomous regions in Serbia: Kosovo and Vojvodina. However, the members of all nations and nationalities have the right to use their own language, script and spelling, disregarding the number and the territory on which they live. On the territory of Yugoslavia languages of nations and nationalities as well as their scripts and spellings are equal.

In accordance with the cited constitutional principles, in Yugoslavia there is neither one national language, neither one state language nor one main or principal language which has the broadest sphere of influence. So, there is neither one state script nor spelling.

The recommendations of the Second Conference induced forming of Yugoslav Commission for the standardization of geographical names. The Commission was suggested to be consisted of the names authority from all the republics and regions, Council of Academy of Science and Art, Yugoslav Institution for Standardization, Federal Statistical Office and Military Geographical Institute. The Commission will be suitable form for solving all the questions connected with the standardization of geographical names in different language regions of Yugoslavia and for developing more effective cooperation in that field.

One of the first tasks of the Commission will be making Gazetteer (Register of geographical names) on the whole territory of Yugoslavia. A working group has already been engaged in research with the aim to propose solutions connected with the scope of data taking into consideration the used sources (topographic maps 1:25 000, 1:50 000, 1:100 000, 1:200 000), classification, systematization and code marking of data, location of names, automatic data processing etc.

Regarding the activity in publishing cartographic publications it is interesting to mention that Aeronautical Chart - ICAO 1:500 000 was made in 1975. In accordance with International standards and recommendations of International Civil Aviation Organization, Roman script is used for writting of all the names. Geographical names on the encircled parts of Italy, Austria, Hungary, Romania and

Albania are written in the original form with all the diacritical marks, whereas the names on the territories of Bulgaria and Greece are romanized in the system which is officially accepted in these countries. For the romanization of geographical names on the territory of Bulgaria the system adopted on the Second Conference (Resolution 5: Bulgarian Cyrillic Alphabet) was used.

National Standardization

In standardizing geographical names and terms (names of populated places, hydronyms, oronyms and names of regions) inside Yugoslav boundaries, in maps, atlases and all professional and scientific documentation, the following method is generally used: geographical names are written in Roman or Cyrillic characters in accordance with the spelling and pronunciation used in the language regions in which these named geographical features are situated.

Scripts which are used in Yugoslavia and their Mutual Transliteration

On the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names the resolution "Cyrillic Alphabets in Yugoslavia" was adopted and it recommends the system used in the official publication "Gazetteer of Inhabited Places" published by Federal Statistical Office, Belgrade, latest edition 1971, to be adopted as the international system for the romanization of the Cyrillic alphabets officially used for geographical names on the territory of Yugoslavia.

Considering that this resolution can cause some difficulties in international use, a further step can be made in explaining the system that is used for those aims in Yugoslav practice.

Namely, in Yugoslavia there are several variants of Roman and Cyrillic scripts, each of them with its own characteristics.

Roman alphabet is used on the Serbo-Croat, that is on the Croato-Serbian language territory and it consist of 30 sounds and 27 letters. It differs from the Roman alphabet used in Slovenian language which consists of only 25 sounds and 25 letters.

Similarly, Cyrillic alphabet is used on the Serbo-Croat, that is on the Croato-Serbian language territory and consists of 30 characters and 30 sounds, whereas the Cyrillic alphabet which is used in Macedonian language consist of 31 characters and 31 sounds.

In the Annex of this Information there is the table of the Cyrillic and the Roman scripts which are used in Yugoslavia. It can be used as the key for transition from the graphic symbols of one script to the corresponding graphic symbols of the other. The key is applied for the romanization of the Cyrillic alphabets when making the geographic and the topographic maps on wich geographical names in Yugoslavia are written in Roman script.

The characteristic of this system of transition, that is of substitution, is its reversibility: the transition either from Roman or from Cyrillic script is done in the same way, having in mind that the sounds lj, nj, dž must not be substituted by the characters лј, нј, дж, but by the characters and sounds љ, њ, џ, and the sound dz by s and not by дз while transiting to the Macedonian Cyrillic alphabet. In all the other cases transliteration is done holding the principle "letter-for-letter" and at the same time "sound-for-sound".

This complemented system which is used in Yugoslavia could

also be used as the international system for romanization of the Cyrillic scripts which are officially used in Yugoslavia for geographical names on the territory of Yugoslavia.

Critical Remarks on the Treatment of some
Yugoslav Names in the International Usage

Treatment of some names related to geographical entities on the territory of Yugoslavia, in some foreign cartographic publications which are often intended to international usage, is not in accordance with our attitudes about the international usage of geographical names related to the territory of Yugoslavia. The national standards of the countries on whose territory the described features are, must be respected in international usage.

Several examples of such treatment of the geographical names, whose geographical entity is related to the territory of Yugoslavia, are given here. The examples are from different atlases⁺ and maps:

⁺ The Oxford Atlas
Hamond s Ambassador World Atlas
Rand McNally World Atlas
Atlas Internationale Larousse
Bertelsmann Atlas International
Földrajzi Atlas
Schweizerischer Mittelschulatlases
Meyers Universal Atlas

<u>Given Form</u>	<u>Correct Form</u>
Abbazia (Opatija)	Opatija
Bacher Gebirge	Pohorje
Celje (Cilli)	Celje
Dravograd (Unterdrauburg)	Dravograd
Karolyvaros (Karlovac)	Karlovac
Kočevje (Gottschee)	Kočevje
Kotor (Cattaro)	Kotor
Kranj (Krainburg)	Kranj
Krško (Gurkfeld)	Krško
Lastovo (Lagosta)	Lastovo
Ljubljana (Laibach)	Ljubljana
Maribor (Marburg)	Maribor
Novi Sad (Neusatz)	Novi Sad
Osijek (Esseg)	Osijek
Pancsova (Pančevo)	Pančevo
Petrovaradin (Peterwardein)	Petrovaradin
Pirano	Piran
Postojna (Adelsberg)	Postojna
Skopje (Usküb)	Skopje
Subotica (Maria Theresiopel)	Subotica
Ujvidek (Novi Sad)	Novi Sad
Varasd (Varaždin)	Varaždin
Veröce (Virovitica)	Virovitica
Vrhnika (Oberlaibach)	Vrhnika
Zagreb (Agram)	Zagreb
Zara (Zadar)	Zadar
Zemun (Semlin)	Zemun
Zengg (Senj)	Senj

The striking example of disrespect of our national standards is the treatment of our geographical names on the atlas jacket of Meyers Universal-Atlas.[†] In it, all the geographical names on the territory of Slovenia and of part of Croatia are given only in their germanized form. So, instead of the correct names: Ljubljana, Maribor, Celje, Ptuj, Kranj, Kočevje, Zagreb, Zagrebačka gora, etc., it is written: Laibach, Marburg, Cilli, Pettau, Krainburg, Gottschee, Agram, Agramer Geb., etc.

Comparing the names from those publications to their correct forms, three cases can be found:

- 1) the incorrect form of the name is given in bracket after the correct form
- 2) the correct form of the name is given in bracket after the incorrect form
- 3) correct form is not given at all.

We think that, disregarding the differences in treatment, none of the cited cases cannot be considered to be acceptable because the names in brackets must too represent geographical information that reflects national characteristic of the concerned territory.

In that regard, we think recommendations of the Resolutions 29 and 31 of the Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, in which the need for maximal limiting the use of exonyms is emphasized, to be realistic.

This question is not only of formal nature, but can imply much more important things. The used names, according to their origin and the time of their forming, often associate with periods of subjugation of our territories in

[†] MEYERS UNIVERSAL-ATLAS

Bibliographisches Institut, Mannheim/Wien/Zürich, 1970

near or distant past and so, they inform incorrectly the users of maps out of Yugoslavia, because they do not reflect the objective picture of national belonging of the population that live on those territories.

In general, the problem of abolishing or maximal limiting of the usage of exonyms has become more and more current because many of the countries that have got independence, tend to express their national identity as well by having their own geographical names.

CYRILLIC AND ROMAN WRITING SYSTEMS
IN YUGOSLAVIA

<i>Cyrillic script of the Serbo-Croatian language standard</i>	<i>Cyrillic script of the Macedonian language standard</i>	<i>Roman script of the Serbo-Croatian (Croato-Serbian) language standard</i>	<i>Roman script of the Slovenian language standard</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
А а	А а	A a	A a	
Б б	Б б	B b	B b	
В в	В в	V v	V v	
Г г	Г г	G g	G g	
Д д	Д д	D d	D d	
Ђ ђ	Ѓ ѓ	Ђ đ		See note (1)
Е е	Е е	E e	E e	
Ж ж	Ж ж	Ž ž	Ž ž	
З з	З з	Z z	Z z	
	С с			In Roman scripts replaced by dz
И и	И и	I i	I i	
Ј ј	Ј ј	J j	J j	
К к	К к	K k	K k	
Л л	Л л	L l	L l	
Љ љ	Љ љ	Lj lj		
М м	М м	M m	M m	
Н н	Н н	N n	N n	
Њ њ	Њ њ	Nj nj		
О о	О о	O o	O o	
П п	П п	P p	P p	
Р р	Р р	R r	R r	
С с	С с	S s	S s	
Т т	Т т	T t	T t	
Ђ ђ	Ѓ ѓ	Ѓ ѓ		See note (2)
У у	У у	U u	U u	
Ф ф	Ф ф	F f	F f	
Х х	Х х	H h	H h	
Ц ц	Ц ц	C c	C c	
Ч ч	Ч ч	Č č	Č č	
Џ џ	Џ џ	Dž dž		
Ш ш	Ш ш	Š š	Š š	

Notes

In Roman scripts there are two exceptions:

(1) *ђ in front of e and i changes into g, e. g.*

Ђевгелија = Gevgelija

Ђинтовци = Gintovci

(2) *ќ in front of e and i changes into k, e. g.*

Ќесендре = Kesendre

Ќирово = Kirovo