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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

**National and international meetings, conferences, symposiums, publicity
and publications**

International Seminar on Sea Names, 2013~2016

Submitted by the Republic of Korea**

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International Seminar on Sea Names, 2013~2016¹

SUMMARY

The International Seminar on Sea Names has been held annually from 2013 to 2016. Each year, more than forty participants discussed the issues of geographical naming in paper presentations and panel discussions, with specific focus on maritime names. The seminar made a progress in this period in its organization of contents and in the publication of results; having a main theme and issue-oriented sub-themes each year, specifically chosen to the geographical characteristics of the venue, and publishing a book of proceedings with the title of the main theme. Major key-words included in the themes were peace, heritage, perception, history and culture, education, connection, international relations, and so on. Launched in 1995, this annual seminar has broadened its scope to be a general forum to discuss principles and practices of naming geographical or maritime features and issues of international standardization and documentation. The total number of papers presented so far has reached to 343. More information is available at the seminar website:

<http://www.eastsea1994.org/seminars>.

The International Seminar on Sea Names has continued from 2013 to 2016; in Istanbul (19th, August 2013), Gyeongju (20th, October 2014), Helsinki (21st, August 2015), and Jeju (22nd, October 2016). Each year, more than forty participants discussed the issues of naming geographical or maritime features in paper presentations and panel discussions. As many as sixty-nine papers were presented during this period. This annual seminar has been co-organized by The Society for East Sea and the Northeast Asian History Foundation. The 19th Seminar was joined by The Institute for History of Ataturk's Reform and Principles, Istanbul University, as the local organizer.

The seminar made a progress in this period in its organization of contents and in the publication of results. First, each seminar was titled with a main theme and divided into a few issue-oriented sub-themes. These themes were specifically chosen to the geographical characteristics of the venue (See Table 1). Second, the results of each seminar, including revised papers and discussion points, were published in a book with the title of the main theme.

Launched in 1995, the seminar was initially motivated to search for a resolution to the chronic disputes on the name of the sea between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago. It has, however, now broadened its scope to be a general forum to discuss principles and practices of naming geographical or maritime features and issues of international standardization and documentation. The total number of papers presented so far has reached to 343. More information is available at the seminar website: <http://www.eastsea1994.org/seminars>.

The 23rd International Seminar on Sea Names is scheduled to be held in Berlin, Germany in October 2017. Any experts interested in participating are welcome to contact Professor Young-Hoon Kim at: gis@knue.ac.kr.

¹ This working paper pertains to the UNCSTGN resolution I/7 (Regional meetings).

Table 1. Main themes and sub-themes of the International Seminar on Sea Names, 2013~2016

year	venue	main theme	sub-theme
2013 (19 th)	Istanbul, Turkey	Sea, Sea Names and Mediterranean Peace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conceptual Reconsideration on Naming Seas • Sea Names, Border Issues and Disputed Territories in Eastern Europe • Perspectives on the Name East Sea • Perspectives from Africa and the Middle East • Naming and Border Issues in Geography Education
2014 (20 th)	Gyeongju, Korea	Sea, Sea Names and Peace in East Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical Naming, Social Justice and Educational Value • Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage • Historical and Linguistics Approach to Geographical Naming • International Relations, Legislation, Organization and Geographical Naming • The Naming Issue: Perception and Solution
2015 (21 st)	Helsinki, Finland	Sea Names: Heritage, Perception and International Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical Names as Cultural Heritage with Specific Regard to Hydronyms • International Relations, Naming Disputes and Solutions • Perception on Seas and their Naming: Origins, Motivation, Memory and Harmony • Political Geography, Peace and Toponymy in Northern Europe • Way Forward to Resolving the East Sea/Sea of Japan issue
2016 (22 nd)	Jeju, Korea	Seas and Islands: Connecting People, Culture, History and the Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seas and Islands: Memories and Heritages Mirrored in Geographical Names • Names of Seas and Islands from Historical Perspectives • The Socialized Nature of Geographical Knowledge: Sea Names in Maps, the Media and Schools • The Construction of Disputes and Solutions on Geographical Names • Audacious Hope and Thoughtful Steps Toward the Solution

References

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