

1. WHAT IS STANDARDIZATION?

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Main elements are:

- There should be a clear relationship between names and the places they designate
- Look at "Standardization" in the [UNGEGN Glossary](#) (or click [here](#) for pdf)
- Nationally standardized names are the basis of international standards
- Univocity? The ideal is that **every** topographic feature or object **has its own** specific **name** which only applies to that object.

One object – one name.

Standardization is the establishment by an appropriate authority, of a specific set of standards or norms, e.g. for the uniform rendering of toponyms.

Geographical names standardization is the prescription by a names authority of one or more particular names, together with their precise written form for application to a particular geographical feature, as well as the conditions for their use.

National geographical names standardization is the standardization of geographical names within the area of national entity such as a state.

International geographical names standardization is the activity aimed at reaching maximum practical uniformity in the rendering – oral and written – of all geographical names on Earth by means of national standardization and/or international convention, including the correspondence between different languages and writing systems.



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