drawing: Menno Boulder

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S11: Conversion systems

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This chapter is mainly based on the paper "*Script Transformation Systems*" by Päll (2003). See also the "documents" section.

Structure of this chapter:

Introduction
Chapter 1: A ***solution***
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Chapter 3: ***UN-approved systems***
Chapter 4: ***Typology of conversion types*** and ***examples***

When reading through the following pages, you will come across some unusual terms. These terms are hyperlinked to the UNGEGN Glossary of Terminology (pdf). Behind each term a number (#) is given that corresponds to the numbering applied in this glossary, e.g. toponymy (#344).

For exercises and documents (and literature) on this topic see respectively the "Exercises" and/or the "Documents" section of this module.

The complete module can be downloaded here.

INTRODUCTION

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The existence of various writing systems would mean that there have to be standardized ways of representing geographical names originating in languages with other writing systems. It would be technically feasible to standardize names within a group of languages using the same writing system, e.g. those using Roman script. But for names from languages outside the group there are often different methods of representing them in Roman letters. One and the same non-Roman name might be rendered differently, depending on the target language, tradition and purpose of the text. A single Russian place name may serve as a good example of confusion created by various language-oriented renderings:

What happens with language-oriented conversions?

RUSSIAN	TRANSCRIPTION	LANGUAGE
Шахты	*Shakhty*	English
Šahty [UN]	*Šahtõ*	Estonian
ʃaxtɨ [phon.]	*Šahty*	Finnish
	Chakhty	French
	Schachty	German
	Sahti	Hungarian
	Szachty	Polish
	Sjachty	Swedish
	Şahtı	Turkish
	etc. etc.	

Although the name contains only five sounds, they have in this table 17 different graphic representations in Roman letters. The phoneme [ʃ] is represented by eight letters or letter combinations (ch, s, š, s, sch, sh, sj, sz), [x] by three (ch, h, kh) and [ɨ] by four (i, i, õ,y).

What happens with method-oriented conversions?

Apart from country-oriented conversion methods, there are also different conversion methods that don't target specific countries, but are based on specific scientific viewpoints or institutional traditions.

For the conversion of Arabic names, for instance, there are systems developed by ISO (233), by UNGEGN, by DIN and others. Wikipedia gives an overview (see Romanization of Arabic).

Letter	Unicode	Name	UNGEGN	ALA-LC	DIN	ISO	ISO/R	SAS	SM	IPA	BATR	ArabTeX	chat
ء أ إ ؤ ئ	0621	hamzah	ʼ		ʾ	ˈ ˌ	ʼ	ʾ	'	ʔ	e	'	2
ا	0627	ʾalif	ā			ʾ	ā	a, i, u; ā	aa	aː	aa or A	a	a/e/é
ب	0628	bāʾ	b							b	b		
ت	062A	tāʾ	t							t	t		
ث	062B	ṯāʾ	th		ṯ				ç	θ	c	_t	s/th
ج	062C	ǧīm	j		ǧ			ŷ	j	d͡ʒ/g/ʒ	j	^g	j/g/dj
ح	062D	ḥāʾ	ḩ	ḥ						ħ	H	.h	7
خ	062E	ḫāʾ	kh		ḫ	ẖ		j	x	x/χ	K	_h	kh/7'/5

د	062F	dāl	d							d	d		
ذ	0630	ḏāl	dh		ḏ				đ	ð	z'	_d	z/dh/th
ر	0631	rāʾ	r							r	r		
ز	0632	zayn/zāy	z							z	z		
س	0633	sīn	s							s	s		
ش	0634	šīn	sh		š					ʃ	x	^s	sh/ch
ص	0635	ṣād	ṣ	ṣ						sˤ	S	.s	s/9
ض	0636	ḍād	ḍ	ḍ						dˤ	D	.d	d/9'
ط	0637	ṭāʾ	ṭ	ṭ						tˤ	T	.t	t/6
ظ	0638	ẓāʾ	ẓ	ẓ					đ̣	ðˤ/zˤ	Z	.z	z/dh/6'
ع	0639	ʿayn	ʿ		ʿ				ř	ʕ	E	`	3
غ	063A	ġayn	gh		ġ		ğ	g	ğ̣	ɣ/ʁ	g	.g	gh/3'
ف	0641	fāʾ	f							f	f		
ق	0642	qāf	q							q	q		2/g/q
ك	0643	kāf	k							k	k		
ل	0644	lām	l							l	l		
م	0645	mīm	m							m	m		
ن	0646	nūn	n							n	n		
ه	0647	hāʾ	h							h	h		
و	0648	wāw	w	w; ū					w; o	w, uː	w or uu	w	w; o; ou/u/oo
ي	064A	yāʾ	y	y; ī					y; e	j, iː	y or ii	y	y; i/ee; ei/ai
آ	0622	ʾalif maddah	ā	ā, ʾā	ʾā	ʾâ	ā, ʾā	ā	ʾaa	ʔaː	eaa	'A	2a/aa
ة	0629	tāʾ marbūṭah	h, t			ẗ	ʰ, ẗ	t; —	ŧ	a/at	t'	T	a/e(h); et/at
ى	0649	ʾalif maqṣūrah	y	á	ā	ỳ		à	à	aː	aaa	_A	a; i/y
ال		ʾalif lām	al-			ʾal	al-		al-; ál-	(var.)	Al-	al-	el/e+double consonant

Source: Wikipedia - Romanization of Arabic

The existence of different methodological systems also would result in different name versions in the Roman alphabet for the same Arab name:

What happens with method-oriented conversions?* - continued)

ARABIC	*UN method*	*ISO method*	*etc.*
وَهْرَن	*Wahrān*	*Wahrān*	
غَرْدَايَة	*Ghardāyah*	*Ḡardāyaẗ*	
ألجزائر	*al-Jazāʿir*	*ʾal Gazāʿir*	

So, even if these systems are not language-oriented, there still are sizable differences.

*) Differences between the UN-system and the ISO system

The transliteration **ISO 233:1984** gives every character and diacritic sign a unique equivalent and e.g. long vowels in Arabic *ā, ī* and *ū* are consequently written *a'*, *iy* and *uw* respectively in the ISO transliteration. Other main correspondences:

UN	ISO	UN	ISO	UN	ISO
ā (آ)	= â	gh	= ġ	kh	= ḫ
á	= ay	h (ة)	= ẗ	ṣ	= ṣ
aⁿ	= á	ḥ	= ḥ	sh	= š
ḍ	= ḍ	iⁿ	= í	ṭ	= ṭ
dh	= ḏ	j	= ǧ	th	= ṯ

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1. A SOLUTION

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For each name written in a non-roman alphabet there should be only one internationally accepted way of writing in roman letters.

A solution that has been offered and is advocated by the United Nations is contained in the resolution of the first United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (1967, res. 9): one of the aims of international Standardization is

"*to arrive at an agreement on a single romanization system, based on scientific principles, from each non-Roman alphabet or script, for international application*".

This is known as the ***single romanization principle***. In other words, for each name written in a non-Roman alphabet there should be only one internationally accepted way of writing in Roman letters. In the case of the Russian example above, this accepted spelling would be Šahty, according to a recommentation* adopted in 1987. In the case of the Arab example above, the UN prefers the system it approved itself, that is the amended Beirut system**.

***) Resolution V/18 Romanization of the Russian alphabet for geographical names**

The conference, noting that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has officially adopted a systenm for romanizing geographical names of that country written in the Russian Cyrillic alphabet, noting also that this system has been applied on maps produced in the Soviet Union for international use, recommends that the GOST 1983 system of the Main Adnministration of Geodesy and Cartography, set out in the annex to the

present resolution, be adopted as the international system for the romanization of geographical names in the Cyrillic alphabet.

R.C.	R.	Examples		R.C.	R.	Examples	
а	a	Анапа	Anapa	с	s	Сасово	Sasovo
б	b	Бабушкин	Babuškin	т	t	Татта	Tatta
в	v	Вавилово	Vavilovo	у	u	Уржум	Uržum
г	g	Гагарин	Gagarin	ф	f	Фофаново	Fofanovo
д	d	Дудинка	Dudinka	х	h	Хохлома	Hohloma
е	e	Елисеевка	Eliseevka	ц	c	Цветково	Cvetkovo
ё	ë	Ёлкино	Ëlkino	ч	č	Чечельник	Čečel′nik
		Псёл	Psël	ш	š	Шишкино	Šiškino
ж	ž	Жужа	Žuža	щ	šč	Щукино	Ščukino
з	z	Звёздный	Zvëzdnyj	ъ	"	Подъячево	Pod"jačevo
и	i	Идрица	Idrica	ы	y	Ыныкчанский	Ynykčanskij
й	j	Зарайск	Zarajsk	ь	′	Паранька	Paran′ga
к	k	Коканд	Kokand			Казань	Kazan′
л	l	Лалвар	Lalvar			Щучье	Ščuč′e
м	m	Маймак	Majmak	э	è	Элиста	Èlista
н	n	Нежин	Nežin	ю	ju	Юрино	Jurino
о	o	Ободовка	Obodovka			Юхнов	Juhnov
п	p	Пап	Pap			Юрюзань	Jurjuzan′
р	r	Ребриха	Rebriha	я	ja	Ямал	Jamal
						Язъяван	Jaz"javan
						Яя	Jaja
						Вязьма	Vjaz′ma

UNGEGN-accepted official GOST 1983 conversion system Cyrillic-Roman alphabet

**) The Conference,

Considering resolutions 11 and 12 of the First United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names,

Noting the system adopted by the Arabic experts at the conference held at Beirut in 1971, which is reproduced in the annex to document E/CONF.61/L.77,[25)]

Further noting the practical amendments carried out and agreed upon by the representatives of the Arabic-speaking countries at their conference,

Recommends the adoption of the amended Beirut system, as shown in the annex to E/CONF.61/L.77, for the romanization of the geographical names within those Arabic-speaking countries where this system is officially acknowledged.

25) Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names: Vol. II. Technical papers, 1972, p. 31.

Conversion of Arab consonants into the Roman alphabet according to the Amended Beirut system

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
ء				’, (1)	ر			ـر	r	ف	فـ	ـفـ	ـف	f
ا			ـا	- 2	ز			ـز	z	ق	قـ	ـقـ	ـق	q
ب	بـ	ـبـ	ـب	b	س	سـ	ـسـ	ـس	s	ك	كـ	ـكـ	ـك	k
ت	تـ	ـتـ	ـت	t	ش	شـ	ـشـ	ـش	sh	ل	لـ	ـلـ	ـل	l
ث	ثـ	ـثـ	ـث	th	ص	صـ	ـصـ	ـص	ṣ	م	مـ	ـمـ	ـم	m
ج	جـ	ـجـ	ـج	j	ض	ضـ	ـضـ	ـض	ḍ	ن	نـ	ـنـ	ـن	n
ح	حـ	ـحـ	ـح	ḥ	ط	طـ	ـطـ	ـط	ṭ	ه	هـ	ـهـ	ـه	h
خ	خـ	ـخـ	ـخ	kh	ظ	ظـ	ـظـ	ـظ	ẓ	و			ـو	w
د			ـد	d	ع	عـ	ـعـ	ـع	‘	ي	يـ	ـيـ	ـي	y
ذ			ـذ	dh	غ	غـ	ـغـ	ـغ	gh					

Conversion of vowels according to the Amended Beirut system (see below)

Vowels, diphthongs and diacritical marks (• stands for any consonant)

•َ	a	•ْ	(1)	ـَى	á
•َوْ	aw	ـَا (اَ•)	ā	•ً	a^n
•َيْ	ay	آ	ā	•ٍ	i^n
•ِ	i	ـِي	ī	•ٌ	u^n
•ُ	u	ـُو	ū	•ّ	(2)

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2. TERMINOLOGY

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Whatever conversion system is chosen for the official UN-backed conversion, there still would be different options to choose from. These options are described in the terminology given here. The various definitions have been taken from Kadmon (2000).

In the following pages we will discuss:

a. Conversion
b. Transcription
c. Transliteration
d. Transliteration key

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2. TERMINOLOGY- *A) CONVERSION*

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Conversion is a general term denoting all changes that happen when phonological and/or morphological elements of a particular language are transferred to another language. Particularly this concerns transformations from one script into another. Names may be converted from Roman script into Arabic, from Thai into Russian, etc. Speaking of the direction of the conversion, there is the **source script** (also called donor script) - in terms of which a name is originally produced; the other is the **target script** (or receiver script) - into which a name is converted. **Romanization** is a conversion from non-Roman into Roman script, e.g.:

Greek Αθήνα → Athina
Russian Москва → Moskva
Arabic بيروت→ Bayrūt
Hebrew תל־אביב→ Tel-Aviv.

Conversion is effected by either transcription or transliteration.

INFORMATION

2. TERMINOLOGY

Although it is often thought that transcription is not used for conversions between Roman-script languages, there are some exceptions. Many of the geographical names that are nowadays viewed as exonyms have in fact been formed using the transcription method. Examples:

Spanish Zaragoza ⟶ English and German Saragossa,
Italian Toscana ⟶ German Toskana,
Romanian Bucovina ⟶ Polish Bukowina,
French Bruxelles/Dutch Brussel ⟶ Hungarian Brüsszel,
German Hamburg ⟶ French Hambourg.

There are also some languages where out of tradition and/or morphological considerations all names are transcribed. For example, in Latvian all nouns should have an ending in the nominative case, otherwise it would be difficult to decline the nouns. This has led to using Latvian orthography throughout the names, e.g.

German Stuttgart ⟶ Štutgarte (note the feminine ending -e),
French Tours ⟶ Tura,
English Newcastle ⟶ Nukasla.

2. TERMINOLOGY- *B) TRANSCRIPTION*

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Transcription is a method of phonetic names conversion between different languages, in which the sounds of a source language are recorded in terms of a specific target language and its particular script, normally without recourse to additional signs called diacritics. Examples:

Turkish *Ankara* → Greek Αγκαρα,
Russian Щукино → English *Shchukino*.

Although transcription aims at giving the user a "pronounceable" name spelling, it is often only an approximation of the original pronunciation. This is because the sound structure of languages is different, and the sounds of a source language cannot always be recorded in the orthography of a target language. For example, an English speaker would not know how to pronounce certain Arabic sounds, like

ح, ص, ط, ع, غ

that do not have counterparts in English.

This makes transcription linguistically imprecise and dependent on the orthography of a target language. Transcription is not normally a reversible process. If attempting to restore the source spellings of the examples given to the definition, the results could be different:

Greek Αγκαρα → Turkish "Agkara",
English Shchukino →Russian "Щчукино".

For more information on transcription click

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2. TERMINOLOGY- *C) TRANSLITERATION*

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Transliteration is a names conversion method between different alphabetic and/or syllabic scripts, in which each character (or character combination) is represented in the target script by one character (or character combination). Examples:

Russian Челябинск → Čeljabinsk,
Amharic ትግራይ → Tigray.

Transliteration, as distinct from transcription, aims at (but does not necessarily achieve) complete reversibility. Reversibility here means a characteristic which permits a written item to be converted from one script into another, and subsequently reconverted back into the source script, the result being identical with the original.

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Transliteration key (also called conversion table) lists the characters of a particular source script together with the corresponding characters of a specific target script. In order to distinguish characters of the source script, ample use is made of all the character inventory of the target script, including, if necessary, diacritics (diacritical marks). These are small signs, placed above, below or across a letter or group of letters.

For example,

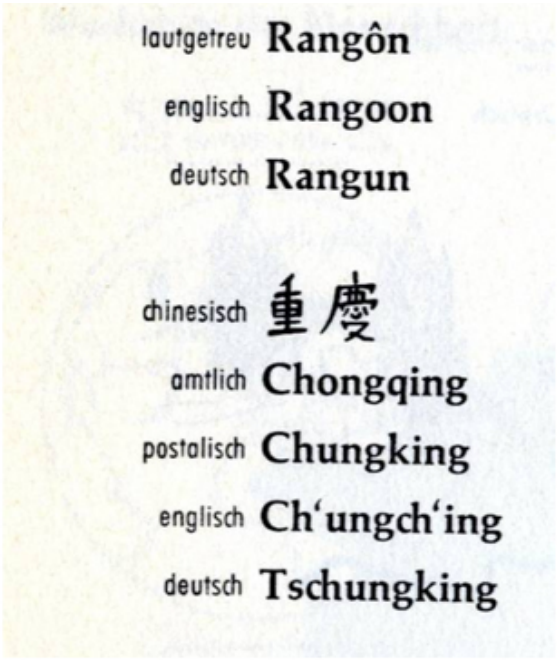
> For example, Greek characters ι and η that are pronounced both [i] may be distinguished by adding a sub-macron to one of them: ι → *i*, η → *i̱*. Similarly distinction is made between Arabic ه → *h*, and ح → *ḥ*.

To compare transcription and transliteration methods, a page from Back (1997), is given here:

	Transliteration	*Transcription*
Representing -	characters or syllabograms	sounds or phonemes
Information on	original spelling	original pronunciation
Conversion rules are	relatively easy	relatively complicated
Reproducing names and their pronunciation is -	often relatively complicated	relatively easy
Domains are -	scientific documentation	journalism, literature
Sources are -	philological works, library rules, ISO	orthographic dictionaries,pronunciation guides

Another comparison between methods can be made on the basis of this German example (see image below):

burmanisch = Burmese
schriftgetreu = correctly transliterated
lautgetreu = phonetically correct
englisch = transcribed to be correctly pronounced in Enlish
deutsch = to be correctly pronounced in German
chinesisch = Chinese
amtlich = officially used conversion
postalisch = conversion in use by postal authorities



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3. UN-APPROVED SYSTEMS

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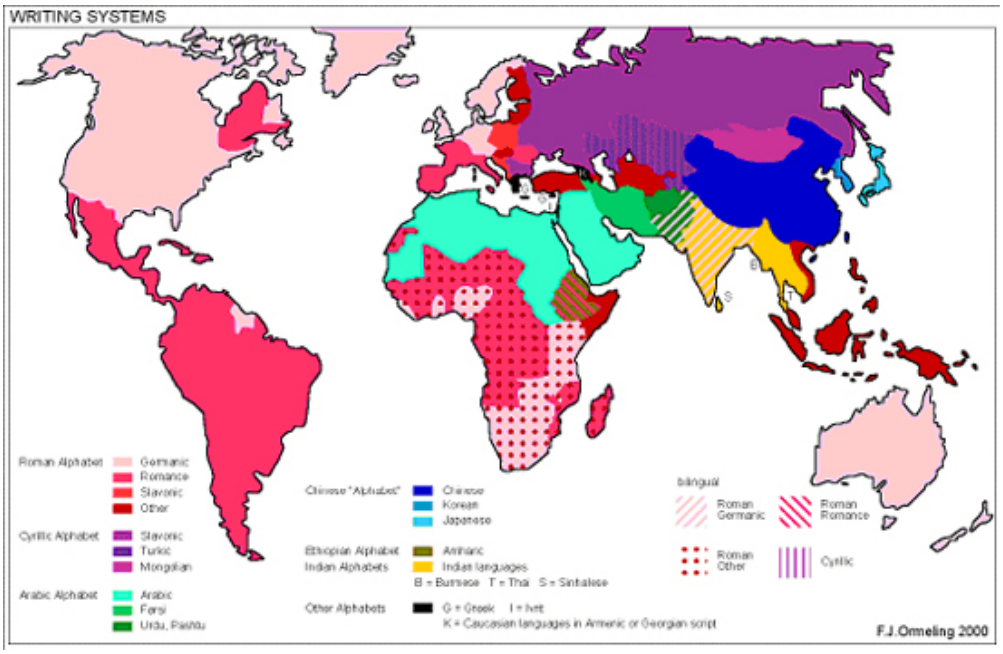
In contrast to ISO systems the ones recommended by the United Nations favour practical aspects and prefer systems that yield "pronounceable" names. As a comparison here are some names converted using a United Nations-recommended system and ISO transliteration:

	ORIGINAL	*UN SYSTEM*	*ISO*
Arabic	طَـرَ ابُـلُـس	Ṭarābulus	ṭara'bulus
Bulgarian	Търново	Tărnovo	T"rnovo
Greek	Ναύπλιο	Náfplio	Naúplio
Hebrew	תֵּל־אָבִיב	Tel-Aviv	tel-'âbiyb
Russian	Щельяюр	Ščel'jajur	Ŝel'âûr
Thai	ประเทศไทย	Prathet Thai	praethṣ̄ithy

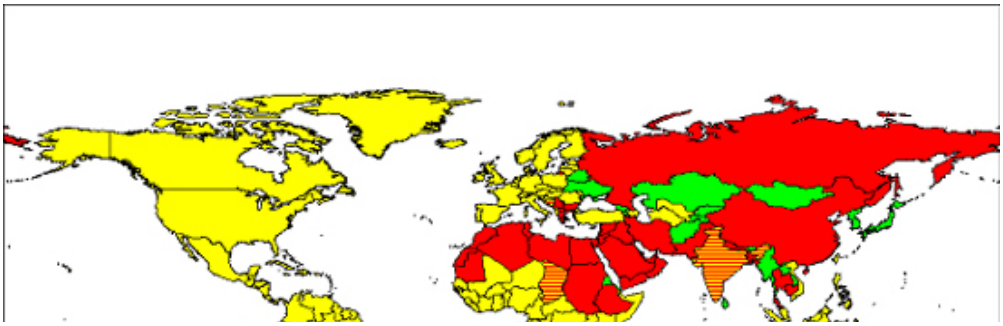
- ISO systems aim at representation of the exact original spelling
- UN systems are practical systems that aim at pronounceable names

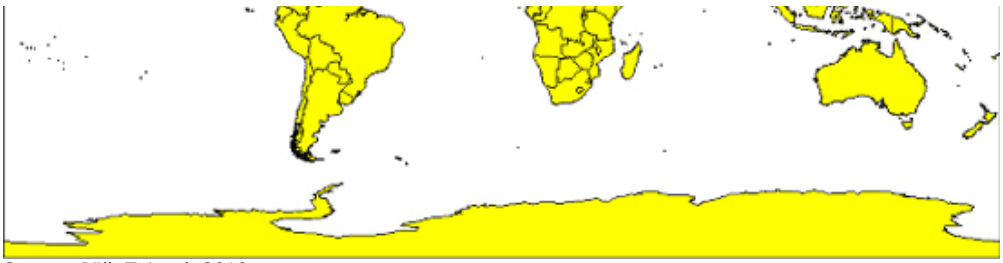
UN-accepted single romanization systems exist for Amharic, Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Chinese, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Kannada, Khmer, Macedonian, Malayalam, Marathi, Mongolian, Nepali, Oriya, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Serbian, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Tibetan, Uigur and Urdu (see UNGEGN romanization website).

In principle, Romanization is only necessary for non-Roman writing systems. Their distribution can be seen here:



The pink and red colours denote Roman alphabet. For which languages with a non-Roman writing system do UNGEGN-accepted conversion systems exist?





Source: Päll, Tainach 2010

Yellow: Roman alphabet area; Red: languages with officially, UNGEGN endorsed conversion systems to the Roman alphabet; Green: language areas without officially, UNGEGN-endorsed conversion systems to the Roman alphabet. Striped areas: both colours apply.

Not all countries where UNGEGN-endorsed systems apply have also conversed their toponyms according to this system. In the map below this is shown (situation 2010). National implementation of the system now is a requirement in order to be recognized and accepted as an UNGEGN-endorsed system. This means, it not only has to be used in maps, but also on roadsigns, in official information, etc. The more widely the system is used, the better. It has been stated that new romanization systems for international use are considered only on condition that the sponsoring nations implement such systems on their cartographic products (maps and charts)(Res. IV/15).*

The Conference,

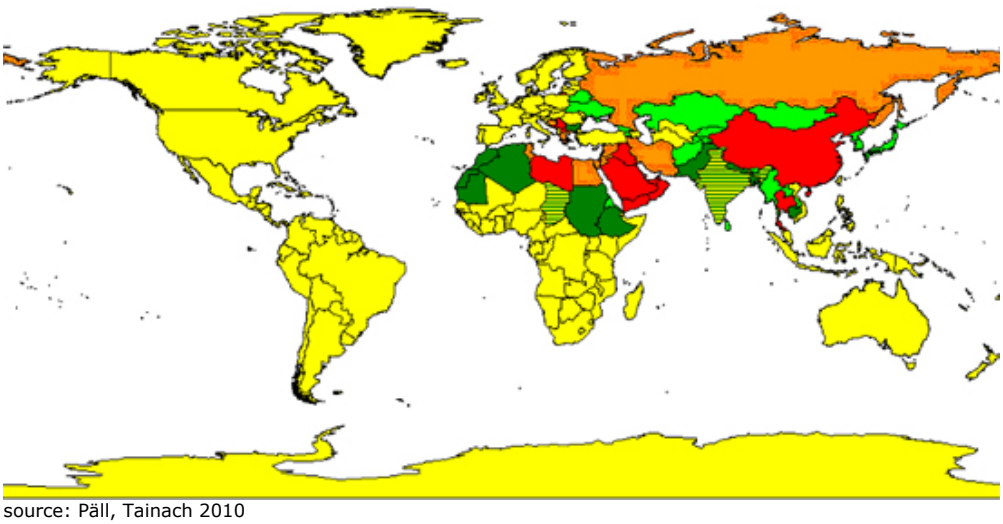
Recognizing the need to ensure maximum stability of romanization systems,

Noting that guidelines governing the consideration of romanization systems are desirable,

Further noting the principle that international standardization should be based on national standardization,

1. Recommends that new romanization systems for international use should be considered only on condition that the sponsoring nations implement such systems on their cartographic products (maps and charts);

2. Further recommends that States should refrain from revising systems previously adopted for international use.



source: Päll, Tainach 2010

In the red countries the officially UNGEGN-endorsed romanization systems have been implemented. In orange-coloured countries these systems have been implemented only partly.

In dark green areas the officially UNGEGN-endorsed romanization systems have not been implemented; in light green areas no UNGEGN-endorsed romanization systems exist.

Other languages/scripts that still have to be provided with an UNGEGN-endorsed romanization system are: Armenian, Burmese, Byelorussian, Dzongkha, Georgian, Japanese, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Korean, Lao, Maldivian, Mongolian (Cyrillic), Pashto, Sinhalese, Tajik, Tigrinya, Ukrainian.

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Type A. Non-Roman to Roman conversions

A1. UN-approved romanization systems

A1a: Nationally and internationally implemented rom.systems

HEBREW	*NATIONAL/UN*
רִאשׁוֹן־לְצִיּוֹן	Rishon-Leẓiyyon
רַמְלָה	Ramla
אַשְׁקְלוֹן	Ashqelon

Alb: Nationally implemented romanization systems

BULGARIAN	NATIONAL/UN	BGN/PCGN
Хасково	Haskovo	Khaskovo
Ловеч	Loveč	Lovech
Велика Търново	Velika Tărnovo	Velika Tŭrnovo

Al c: Not implemented

MALAYALAM	*ENGLISH*
കോഴിക്കോട് Koḻikkoṭ	Calicut, Kozhikode
കൊച്ചി Kŏchchi	Cochin
തിരുവനന്തപുരം Tiruvanantapuraṁ	Trivandrum, Thiruvananthapuram

A2. No UN-approved romanization systems

A2a: National systems + systems in other countries

BYELORUSSIAN	NATIONAL	ENGLISH	ESTONIAN
Магілёў	Mahilioú	Mahilyow	Magiljov
Віцебск	Viciebsk	Vitsyebsk	Vitsebsk
Рэчыца	Rečyca	Rechytsa	Retšõtsa

LAOTIAN	NATIONAL + INTERNATIONAL
ຈຳປາສັກ	Champasak (ex-Champassak)
ສວັນນະເຂດ	Savannakhèt
ໄຊຍະບຸລີ	Xaignabouli (ex-Sayaboury)

A2b: National system, no international use

DZONGKHA	NATIONAL	CONVENTIONAL
བུམ་ཐང	B'umtha	Bumthang
གཞལ་སྒང	Zh'amgang	Shemgang

A2c: No national system, various systems in other countries

ARMENIAN	ENGLISH (BGN/PCGN)	ESTONIAN

Երևան	Yerevan	Jerevan
Չարենցավան	Ch'arents'avan	Tšharentshavan
Վայոց Ձոր	Vayots' Dzor	Vajotsh Dzor

KAZAKH	ENGLISH (BGN/PCGN)	ESTONIAN
Костанай	Qostanay	Kostanaj
Маңғыстау	Mangghystaū	Manggõstau
Сарыарқа	Saryarqa	Sarõarka

A2d: No national or known international systems

SINHALESE	TAMIL	ENGLISH
කොළඹ 'Kŏlamba	கொழும்பு Kŏ□umpu	Colombo
යාපනය Yāpanaya	யாழ்ப்பாணம் Yālppānam	Jaffna
මහනුවර 'Mahanuvara		Kandy

Type B. Roman to Roman conversion

ESTONIAN	LATVIAN
Aardla	Ardla
Vääna	Vêna
Pūssi	Pissi

Type C. Roman to non-Roman conversions

ESTONIAN	RUSSIAN
Aardla	Аардла
Vääna	Вяэна ("Vjaèna")
Pūssi	Пюсси ("Pjussi")

Type D. Non-Roman to non-Roman conversions

UKRAINIAN	RUSSIAN
Хмельницький (Khmel'nyts'kyi)	Хмельницький (Hmel'nickij)
Суми (Sumy)	Сумы (Sumy)
Мелітополь (Melitopol')	Мелитополь (Melitopol')

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AVAILABLE EXERCISES

next>

Exercise 1: From Greek to the Roman alphabet

Exercise 2: From the Khmer alphabet into the Roman alphabet

Home | Exercises : Conversion systems | 1. Convert Greek | 2.Convert Khmer

next>

EXERCISE 1: FROM GREEK TO THE ROMAN ALPHABET

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Home | Exercises : Conversion systems | 1. Convert Greek | 2.Convert Khmer

Convert these Greek geographical names from the Greek alphabet into the Roman alphabet according to the UN-endorsed ELOT system (to be found at: http://www.eki.ee/wgrs/)

Greek names

Αιτωλία-Ακαρνανία	.....	Κορινθία	.....
.....	.....	Κυκλάδες	.....
Αργολίς	.....	Λακωνία	.....
Αρκαδία	.....	Λάρισα	.....
Άρτα	.....	Λασίθιον	.....
Αττική	.....	Λέσβος	.....
Αχαΐα	.....	Λευκάς	.....
Βοιωτία	.....	Μαγνησία	.....
Γρεβενά	.....	Μεσσηνία	.....
Δράμα	.....	Ξάνθη	.....
Δωδεκάνησος	.....	Πέλλα	.....
Έβρος	.....	Πιερία	.....
Εύβοια	.....	Πρέβεζα	.....
Ευρυτανία	.....	Ρέθυμνον	.....
Ζάκυνθος	.....	Ροδόπη	.....
Ηλεία	.....	Σάμος	.....
Ημαθία	.....	Σέρραι	.....
Ηράκλειο	.....	Τρίκαλα	.....
Θεσπρωτία	.....	Φθιώτις	.....
Θεσσαλονίκη	.....	Φλώρινα	.....
Ιωάννινα	.....	Φωκίς	.....
Καβάλα	.....	Χαλκιδική	.....
Καρδίτσα	.....	Χανιά	.....
Καστοριά	.....	Χίος	.....
Κέρκυρα	.....		
Κεφαλληνία	.....		
Κιλκίς	.....		
Κοζάνη	.....		

Street Name sign
in Roman script
(Bahasa Indonesia)
and Javanese script,
in Surakarta, Indonesia

Answers

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EXERCISE 1: WHERE IS ...? - *ANSWERS*

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Home | Exercises : Exonyms | 1.Where is...?

Alankomaat = Finnish name for the Netherlands;

Leghorn = English name for Livorno;

Cornovaglia = Italian name for Cornwall;

Trèves = French name for Trier

EXERCISE 2: FROM KHMER TO THE ROMAN ALPHABET

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Home | Exercises : Conversion systems | 1. Convert Greek | 2.Convert Khmer

Convert these Cambodian geographical names from the Khmer alphabet into the Roman alphabet according to the UN-endorsed system (to be found at http://www.eki.ee/wgrs/rom1_km.pdf (this is rather difficult, however!).

Khmer names	
បាត់ដំបង	.....
កំពង់ចាម	.....
កំពង់ឆ្នាំង	.....
កំពង់ស្ពឺ	.....
កំពង់ធំ	.....
កំពត	.....
កណ្តាល	.....
កោះកុង	.....
ក្រចេះ	.....
មណ្ឌលគីរី	.....
ឧត្តរមានជ័យ	.....
ពោធិ៍សាត់	.....
ព្រះវិហារ	.....
ព្រៃវែង	.....
រតនគីរី	.....
សៀមរាប	.....
ស្ទឹងត្រែង	.....
ស្វាយរៀង	.....
តាកែវ	.....

Be ware this is a very complex exercise!

Warning

Do not to touch electric cables in
Dutch, Bahasa Indonesia and Javanese
(at the Kraton in Yogyakarta, Indonesia).

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DOCUMENTS AND LITERATURE

Available documents:

- D11-01: Päll, P. (2003). *Script Transformation Systems.* In J. Sievers and F.J. Ormeling (eds.) (2003) - Training coourse on Toponymy. Frankfurt am Main, Verlag des Bundesamtes für Kartographie und Geodäsie), pp. 131-137.

Literature:

- Kadmon, N. (2000). *Toponymy. The Lore, Laws and Language of Geographical Names*. Vantage Press, New York.
- Back, O. (1997). *Fragen der Wiedergabe fremdsprachlicher geographiscner Namen durch Exonyme oder durch Umschriftung*. In: Kartographie und Namenstandardisierung. Wiener Schriften zur Geographie und Kartographie. Band 10. Institut fur Geographie der Universitat Wien, Ordinariat fur Geographie und Kartographie, 1997, pp. 55-63.

Online resources:

- UNGEGN - Working Group on Romanization systems
- US Board on geographical Names Romanization systems

The United Nations sell the following publications which also can be downloaded from the UNGEGN website:

- Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names (New York 2002) / pdf
- Manual for the national standardization of geographical names (UN - Ecosoc, New York, 2006 ST/ESA/STAT/SERM/88 Sales No. E.06.XVII.7 ISBN 92-1-161490-2, available in the 6 UN languages) / pdf
- Technical reference manual for the standardization of geographical names (New York, 2007) / pdf
- Resolutions adopted at the nine UN Conferences on the standardization of geographical names (English (pdf) / French (pdf)