Baltic Division of UNGEGN

Structure, operations and works of the Baltic Division

Maciej Zych Chair of the Baltic Division

Polska

Baltic Sea

Latvija

.ietuva

http://www.eki.ee/knn/ungegn/index.htm

Россия

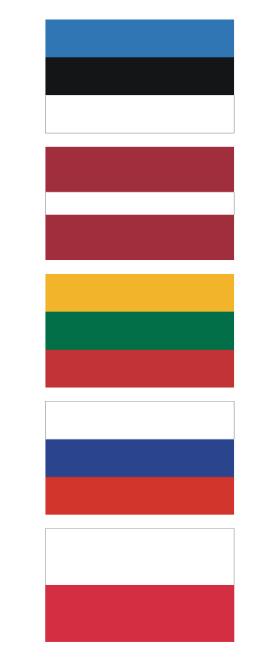
Member states of the Baltic Division

1992 – the Baltic Division was created:

- Republic of Estonia
- Republic of Latvia
- Republic of Lithuania
- Russian Federation

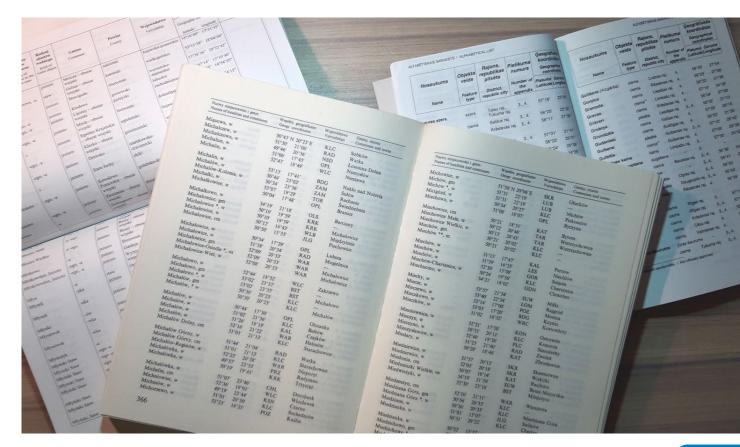
2012 – enlargement of the Baltic Division:

• Republic of Poland



Main objectives of the Baltic Division

- promote national and international standardization of geographical names
- maintain and promote the collaboration, contacts and exchange of experience in national and international standardization of geographical names and to disseminate that experience between the member countries of the Division



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Chairing of the Baltic Division

- chair and one vice-chair
- rotational basis scheme
- period of four years (two periods between UNGEGN sessions)
- state vice-chairing in a given term will be chairing in the next term

Period 2021-2025:

- chair Maciej Zych (Poland)
- vice-chair: Rita Viliuvienė (Lithuania)

Meetings of the Baltic Division

- meeting every year or two
- rotation scheme of the host country of the meeting
- additional meetings during UNGEGN sessions
- participation of observers from non-member countries
- working language: English



Success factors for the Baltic Division

- constant exchange of experiences since the establishment of the Baltic Division
- systematic and fairly frequent meetings of the Baltic Division
- standardization of geographical names carried out in all member states
- all member states have authorities responsible for geographical names (separate geographical names authorities or geographical names are under authority of other central bodies)
- all member states have geographical names databases
- in all member states geographical names are also studied in academia

Challenges for the Baltic Division

- 1. Member countries use languages belonging to 4 different language groups, which use two writing systems:
- Balto-Finnic languages (Estonian) Latin script
- Eastern Baltic languages (Latvian, Lithuanian) Latin script
- East Slavic languages (Russian) Cyrillic script
- West Slavic languages (Polish) Latin script
- 2. Rotation of persons responsible for the standardization of geographical names

3. Political issues

Baltic Division of UNGEGN

Thank you

Россия

Eesti

_atvija

_ietuva

Maciej Zych

Chair of the Baltic Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Polska

Baltic Sea

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