New edition of the Polish list of official names of localities and their parts

Summary

In December 2019, the third edition of the list of official names of localities and their parts was published in Poland. The previous edition was issued in 2015. The list was published on the basis of the legislation on official names of localities and physiographic objects, which entered into force in 2003. The legislation regulates, among other things, rules and procedures for establishing, changing and abolishing official names of localities and their parts, as well as the manner of establishing and publishing lists of such names.

The list contains 102,875 official names of localities and their parts (211 fewer than in the 2015 edition), including 940 names of towns and cities (there is no formal distinction between a town and a city in Poland), 43,057 names of villages, 6,783 names of parts of towns and cities, 36,044 names of parts of villages, 5,137 names of settlements and 4,585 names of hamlets.

The list is arranged in a table with eight columns. The name of the locality is indicated in the first column; the second column contains the officially established type of the locality; the third, fourth and fifth columns refer to the affiliation to an administrative unit (commune, county and voivodeship); the sixth column contains the identifier of the locality from the National Official Register of the Territorial Division of the Country; the seventh column contains the genitive ending for names of localities; and the eighth column contains the relevant adjective (only for names of cities or towns and villages).

Amendments to the list are introduced each year on 1 January after publication in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland. The modifications are the result of both changes to the names themselves and changes to the type of a locality (which may be the result of changes to boundaries of cities or towns). Moreover, regulations
of the Council of Ministers on boundaries may result in changes to the type of a locality.

The list is available on the website of the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names outside the Republic of Poland.¹