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Geographical Names
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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Reports: Divisions of the Group of Experts

**Report of the East Central and South-East Europe Division,
2023–2024****Summary****

The report provides a summary of the activities of the East Central and South-East Europe Division for the period 2023–2024. Further information about the Division is available on its website.¹

Czechia, as Chair of the Division from December 2021 to December 2024, was in contact with most of the Division's 18 members. However, some countries are not in communication with one another, for example Albania, Georgia and Montenegro.

The twenty-seventh meeting of the Division was held on 2 May 2023 in parallel with the 2023 session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. The twenty-eighth meeting was held in Prague on 16 May 2024, chaired by Czechia.

In addition, meetings were held between individual members of the Division. Czechia, Poland and Slovakia met regularly. The seventh joint meeting of the Czech, Polish and Slovak Commissions on Geographical Names was held in Prague in June 2023. The Czech and Slovak secretariats also met individually to exchange information and help to solve problems.

In 2023, Hungary continued its joint field survey with Slovenia in eight settlements in the Szentgotthárd area, where the Slovenian minority in Hungary lives. That is a two-year project focusing on microtoponyms. The results will be published in a book and a map. The project is an excellent model of cooperation between two neighbouring commissions, resulting in a common goal, which is particularly

* [GEGN.2/2025/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Irena Švehlová (Czechia), Land Survey Office. The report will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2025/20/CRP.20.

¹ See <https://ecseed.zrc-sazu.si/>.



important in terms of standardizing geographical names of minorities living near a common national border.

Most members attended the meeting of the Working Group on Exonyms, which was held on 14 and 15 May 2024 in Prague and chaired by Kohei Watanabe. The meeting was expanded to include a joint dinner for the participants and concluded with a tour of Prague.

Most members of the Division accepted the recommended format for national reports under the Group of Experts.

Hungary began to Chair the Division on 1 January 2025.
