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**United Nations Group of Experts on  
Geographical Names****2023 session**

New York, 1–5 May 2023

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries  
and on the progress made in the standardization of  
geographical names****Report of Slovenia****Summary\*\***

After the 2021 session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, the Slovenian Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names continued with the standardization of geographical names within and outside the territory of Slovenia. The Commission met on 19 occasions: 3 hybrid meetings and 16 corresponding meetings. Information and activities related to the Commission are posted on the website of the Commission.<sup>1</sup>

In 2021, the Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names began to update its operations, including three main content sets: a forum for discussion among Commission members, digitalization of the Commission's archives and a website that will comprehensively address the issues of geographical names and their standardization.

The regular task of the Commission is to issue opinions on the correctness and suitability of new names for streets and settlements. This activity is covered under the law on defining territories and naming settlements, streets and buildings. Approval by the Commission is obligatory before municipalities can officially announce new or changed names. In the period under review, the Commission approved about 40 street names and one settlement name.

Slovenia has two national minorities, Hungarian and Italian. On ethnically mixed territories, Italian and Hungarian enjoy equal status with Slovenian, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia. The preparation of a

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\* GEGN.2/2023/1.

\*\* The full report was prepared by the Commission for the Standardization of Geographical Names of the Republic of Slovenia. It will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2023/93/CRP.93, in the language of submission only, at [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd\\_session\\_2023/](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/).

<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.gov.si/en/registries/working-bodies/commission-for-the-standardization-of-geographical-names/>.



list of Italian geographical names at a scale of 1:5,000 is in progress. The list is being prepared by the Italian national community.

In September 2021, two important projects were launched: a three-year project for the standardization of hydronyms in Slovenia from the Register of Geographical Names at a scale of 1: 25,000; and a two-year project about microtoponyms in Rába Valley (Porabje).

There is regular cooperation with translators, lecturers, journalists and various public services about the correct use and spelling of geographical names, especially exonyms.

Slovenia actively participates in the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the Group of Experts, the Working Group on Exonyms and the Working Group on Geographical Names Data Management.

A joint meeting of the Working Group on Exonyms and the Working Group on Toponymic Terminology was organized in Ljubljana from 31 August to 3 September 2022. The meeting was attended by 23 delegates representing 14 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

The President of the Commission, Matjaž Geršič, spent three months (October 2022–January 2023) as a visiting researcher at King Saud University in Riyadh. He was hosted in Saudi Arabia by a member of the National Committee on Geographical Names, Ali Aldosari. Their common research was dedicated to the challenges associated with transliterating European geographical names into Arabic.

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