



UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Advancing geographical names standardization through inclusive, culturally-informed and evidence-based solutions to support sustainable development

2025 Session | 28 April – 2 May 2025 | @UNSD_GEGN, #2025UNGEGN



2025 UNGEGN SESSION Side Event

Meeting of the ICOS Working Group on Toponymy

1315 – 1430 - 1 May 2025 – Two UN Plaza 16th Floor Room 1684

Background

The International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS), the global umbrella organization of all sciences contributing to the field of onomastics, established in 2024 a Working Group on Toponymy as its third WG. In the framework of the 28th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences, 19–23 August 2024, Helsinki, Finland, this WG held its first business meeting electing Peter Jordan (Austria) Chair and Chrismi-Rinda Loth (South Africa) Vice-Chair of the WG. In the meantime, the WG has 60 members from 32 countries and all continents. A major task of the WG is organizing sessions at international congresses and conferences as well as cultivating contacts with other global organizations in the field of toponymy such as UNGEGN, or related to this field like ICA or IGU.

Objective

This meeting will present the tasks and aims of this WG, its activities since its foundation in 2024 as well as its activities planned for the remaining year 2025. It will also be an opportunity to present and discuss ideas for future activities including events and scientific projects as well as to exchange information between participants. All WG members present at the UNGEGN Session are cordially invited, but the meeting is also open to everybody else interested.

Key Discussion Points:

- Activities of the WG up to the 4th UNGEGN Session.
- Activities of the WG in the rest of 2025.
- Plans for future events and scientific projects.

Organizers

This meeting is organized by the ICOS Working Group on Toponymy.

Points of Contact:

- Mr. Peter Jordan (Austria) peter.jordan@oeaw.ac.at
- Mr Mark Iliffe (UNGEGN Secretariat) mark.iliffe@un.org

Registration

This side event is organised outside the main United Nations compound. It is organised at the offices of the United Nations Statistics Division at Two United Nations Plaza on 44th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue. Registration for this side event before Sunday 27 April is **required** to ensure you are able to access the building, as this is taking place outside normal working hours.

Register here: <https://forms.office.com/e/hqN8sUDXv8>



The UN Compound is “1” and Two UN Plaza is “2”

This is an open side event and all are invited