

19 February 2025

English

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

2025 session

New York, 28 April – 2 May 2025

Item 6 (c) of the provisional agenda *

**Relationships, links and connections: International organizations,
including academia**

Report of the Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy

Submitted by the Liaison Officer for the International Cartographic Association **

Summary

The report highlights the activities that the Joint International Cartographic Association (ICA)/International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Toponymy has pursued since the 3rd session of the “new” United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, held in United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA, from 1 to 5 May 2023, and contains its programme for 2025. The Commission was established in 2011 under the patronage of the then Chair of the Group of Experts, Helen Kerfoot, the then President of ICA, Georg Gartner, and the then President of IGU, Ron Abler, to foster toponymic research in geography and cartography complementary to that of the Group of Experts, with its focus on standardization, and the International Council of Onomastic Sciences, with its focus on linguistics. That goal was to be pursued by organizing events as part of international conferences and by holding separate symposiums on specific topics, mostly in cooperation with local institutions.

In August 2023, Matjaž Geršič from Slovenia was elected Co-Chair by the ICA to replace Peter Jordan, and in August 2024 Elena Dai Prà from Italy was elected Co-Chair by the IGU to replace Cosimo Palagiano. New members of the Steering Committee were also elected in 2024.

The new Steering Committee has started publishing a newsletter (two have been published so far). The newsletters contain various news about the work of the Commission, but also about events related to geographical names that the Commission was not involved in organising. We would like the Commission's newsletters to become a central point of contact for all events in the field of geographical name research.

The Commission currently has 190 full and corresponding members from 48 countries on all continents. Before the 2021 session of the Group of Experts, the Commission hosted or co-hosted 23 events as part conferences and symposiums, and 9 between the 2021 and 2023 sessions.

Between the 2023 and 2025 sessions, the following events, described in the full report, were held:

1. 31st International Cartographic Conference (ICC) Cape Town, South Africa, 13-18 August 2023

* GEGN.2/2025/1

** The full report was prepared by Matjaž Geršič, Slovenia, Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy, Liaison Officer for the International Cartographic Association and by Elena Dai Prà, Italy, Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy, Liaison Officer for the International Geographical Union

2. 9th EUGEO Congress, Barcelona, Spain, 4-9 September 2023
3. 7th International Symposium on Place Names (ISPN), Bloemfontein, South Africa, 26-29 September 2023
4. Literary, Polar, and Extraterrestrial Place Names Rome, Italy, 23-24 November 2023
5. 35st International Geographical Congress 2024, Dublin, Ireland, 24-30 August 2024
6. EuroCarto 2024, Vienna, Austria, 9-11 September 2024

The Commission's short-term plans are to publish the proceedings of the conferences in Dublin 2024 and Bloemfontaine 2023 and to actively participate in the International Cartographic Congress in Vancouver, Canada, the International Symposium on Place Names in Clarens, South Africa, and the Conference on the Toponymy of Linguistic Minorities in Trento, Italy.

Report of the Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy

1 The Commission's foundation, mission, and development up to 2025

The Commission was established in 2011 under the patronage of the contemporary chairs of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), Helen KERFOOT, the International Cartographic Association (ICA), Georg GARTNER, and the International Geographical Union (IGU), Ron ABLER, with the aim to foster toponymic research in geography and cartography complementary to UNGEGN with its focus on standardization and the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS) with its focus on linguistics. This goal was to be achieved by organising sessions in the framework of international conferences as well as by separate symposia on specific topics, mostly in cooperation with local institutions.

Until 2025 the Commission organized or co-organized sessions in the framework of conferences and symposia on the following topics:

- Place names as markers and ingredients of space-related identity (Cologne [Köln] 2012)
- Geographical names (Kyoto [Kyōto] 2013)
- Historical maps, atlas maps, and toponymy (Leipzig 2013)
- Place names in cartography (Dresden 2013)
- Toponymy (Rome [Roma] 2013)
- Geographical aspects of place names (Krakow [Kraków] 2014)
- Place-name changes (Rome [Roma] 2014)
- Place names and education (Moscow [Moskva] 2015)
- Atlases, toponymy and the history of cartography (Rio de Janeiro 2015)
- Place names on maps (Rio de Janeiro 2015)
- The role of place names in geographical education (Budapest 2015)
- Place names, diversity and heritage (Clarens 2015)
- Place names as social constructs (Beijing 2016)
- Toponymy (Rio de Janeiro 2017)
- Charting the Cosmos of Cartography: History – Names – Atlases (Washington, D.C. 2017)
- Place-name changes, toponymic fieldwork, metaphoric use of place names; place names as cultural heritage, indigenous and minority names; name-placement on maps, names on ancient maps and for planetary features (Washington D.C. 2017)
- Critical Toponymy – Place names in political, historical, and commercial landscapes (Windhoek 2017)
- Use of place names in public space (Moscow [Moskva] 2018)
- Place names as means of structuring geographical space (Quebec 2018)
- Role and structure of national place-name boards (Tokyo [Tōkyō] 2019)
- Toponymy in the context of cartography (Tokyo [Tōkyō] 2019)
- Recognition, regulation, revitalisation: place names and indigenous languages (Clarens, South Africa 2019)
- Place names and migration (Vienna [Wien] 2019)
- Place names as a part of the cultural heritage (Lecce 2021)
- Minority place-name standardization – A comparison of regulations and approaches in Europe (Prague [Praha] 2021)
- Place names as indicators of human perception of space (Istanbul [İstanbul] 2021)
- Standardization and the wealth of place names – aspects of a delicate relationship (Bloemfontein 2021)
- 2nd International Pan American Symposium on Toponymy - II SIPAT (Rio de Janeiro 2021)
- Toponymy in cartography (Florence [Firenze] 2021)
- Atlases in Time – National and Regional Issues (Madrid 2022)
- Place names as (positive or negative) brands (Paris 2022)
- Minority place-name standardization (Vienna [Wien] 2022)
- The Ocean and Seas in Geographical Thought (Milan [Milano] 2023)
- 31st International Cartographic Conference (ICC 2023) (Cape Town 2023)
- Minority place-name standardization – A comparison of regulations and approaches in Europe (Barcelona 2023)

- The presence of minority and indigenous languages in urban naming (Bloemfontein 2023)
- Conference on Literary, Polar and Extraterrestrial Place Names (Rome [Roma] 2023)
- Cloning the place names (Dublin 2024)
- Toponymy and Topography (Vienna [Wien] 2024)

Papers presented at events organized or co-organized by the Commission have up to 2025 been published in the following books and journal issues:

Semestrare di Studi e Ricerche di Geografia, XXV, 2, Roma 2013: Special issue including toponymy papers presented at the IGU Regional Conference Kyoto, Japan, 4-9 August 2013 (<http://www.semestrare-geografia.org/index.php/sdg/issue/view/3>).

Nomina Africana, Journal of the Names Society of Southern Africa, 30, 1, 2016: special issue containing 10 papers presented at the Symposium “Place names, diversity and heritage”, Clarens, Free State, South Africa, 17-18 September 2015.

MOSER J. (ed.) (2016), Joint Commission Seminar on Historical Maps, Atlases and Toponymy (= forum IfL, 30). Leipzig, Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde.

JORDAN P., WOODMAN P. (eds.) (2016), Place-Name Changes. Proceedings of the Symposium in Rome, 17-18 November 2014 (= Name & Place, 5). Hamburg, Verlag Dr. Kovač.

DA ROCHA BÉRENGER RESENDE A.C., JENEY J. (eds.) (2017), Symposium on Atlases, Toponymy and the History of Cartography. Proceedings of the ICC 2015 Pre-Conference Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-21 August 2015. Sine loco [Rio de Janeiro], ICA International Cartographic Association.

DEMHRDIT I., JORDAN P., LOSANGE E. (eds.) (2018), Charting the Cosmos of Cartography: History – Names – Atlases (= The Cartographic Journal, 55, 2018, 2). London, The British Cartographic Society – Taylor & Francis.

BEYER H., BRENZINGER M., DU PLESSIS Th., RAPER P.E. (eds.) (2019), Critical toponymy. Place names in political, historical and commercial landscapes. Proceedings of the 4th International Symposium on Place Names 2017, Windhoek, Namibia, 18-20 September 2017. Johannesburg, UJ Press.

LOTH Ch.-R. (ed.) (2020), Recognition, regulation, revitalisation: place names and indigenous languages. Proceedings of the 5th International Symposium on Place Names 2019. Bloemfontein, Sun Bonani Scholar.

2 Period 2023-2025 and current state

2.1 Membership

As a joint venture of IGU and ICA the joint Commission is headed by a chair from the ICA side (currently Matjaž GERŠIČ, Slovenia), a chair from the IGU side (currently Elena DAI PRÀ, Italy) and a common vice-chair (currently Beatriz Cristina PEREIRA DE SOUZA PINTO, Brasil) as well as a steering board comprising the chairs, five additional members from different countries, and a honorary chair.

Current steering committee:

Dai Prà, Elena (Italy, Chair from IGU side) elena.daipra@unitn.it

Du Plessis, Theodorus (South Africa) dplesslt@ufs.ac.za

Geršič, Matjaž (Slovenia, Chair from ICA side) matjaz.gersic@zrc-sazu.si

Pereira de Souza Pinto Beatriz Cristina (Brasil, Common IGU/ICA vice chair) beatriz.souza@ibge.gov.br

Tátrai, Patrik (Hungary) tatrai.patrik@csfk.org

Tort-Donada, Joan (Spain) jtort@ub.edu

Vescovo, Adriana (Argentina) adriana.vescovo2012@gmail.com

Zych, Maciej (Poland) mzych@poczta.onet.pl

Palagiano, Cosimo (Italy, Honorary Chair) cosimo.palagiano@uniroma1.it

Commission corresponding members: n. 190

1. Abredeyeva, Sholpan (Kazakhstan)
2. Vescovo, Adriana (Argentina)
3. Afeltra, Gennaro (Italy)
4. Ahn, Sejin (Republic of Korea)
5. Aizholova, Gulzhan (Kazakhstan)
6. Aldosari, Ali (Saudi Arabia)
7. Alonso, Barbara (Spain)
8. Alonso, Juan Jose (Spain)
9. Alwelaie, Abdullah (Saudi Arabia)
10. Atoui, Brahim (Algeria)
11. Aversano, Vincenzo (Italy)
12. Azaryahu, Maoz (Israel)
13. Banini, Tiziana (Italy)
14. Bartos-Elekes, Zsombor (Romania)
15. Bekkouche, Ammara (Algeria)
16. Benamar, Badr (Morocco)
17. Benedek, József (Romania)
18. Besana Angelo (Italy)
19. Bo, Moon (Republic of Korea)
20. Botticini, Carlo (Italy)
21. Caffarelli, Enzo (Italy)
22. Cahyono, Ari (Indonesia)
23. Calvarin, Élisabeth (France)
24. Calvo, Irene (Spain)
25. Cantile, Andrea (Italy)
26. Casagrande Gianluca (Italy)
27. Cassi, Laura (Italy)
28. Castaño, Angélica (Spain)
29. Castro, Angela (Columbia)
30. Čerba, Otakar (Czechia)
31. Cernivec, Manca (Slovenia)
32. Chalashika, Royal Kurnbulani (Botswana)
33. Chang, Eunmi (Republic of Korea)
34. Cheetham, Catherine (United Kingdom)
35. Chi, Sang-Hyun (Republic of Korea)
36. Chicheri, Jordi (Spain)
37. Coetzee, Serena (South Africa)
38. Collignon, Béatrice (France)
39. Choo, Sungjae (Republic of Korea)
40. Cooper, Antony (South Africa)
41. Crljenko, Ivana (Croatia)
42. D'Ascenzo Annalisa (Italy)
43. De Santis, Giovanni (Italy)
44. Deng, Dong-Po (China)
45. Dhieb, Mohsen (Tunisia)
46. Dionisio, Pamela (Brazil)
47. Dollimore, Allison (United Kingdom)

48. Dumitraşcu, Monica Ştefania (Romania)
49. El Abdi El Alaoui, Abdellah (Morocco)
50. Erőss, Ágnes (Hungary)
51. Farisic Josip (Croatia)
52. Federzoni, Laura (Italy)
53. Felecan, Oliviu (Romania)
54. Ferland, Yaïves (Canada)
55. Ferrario Viviana (Italy)
56. Friha, Naima (Tunisia)
57. Gabalape, Baboloki (Botswana)
58. Gabellieri Nicola (Italy)
59. Gartner, Georg (Austria)
60. Gercsák, Gábor (Hungary)
61. Gestri Federico (Italy)
62. Ghayoor, Hussnain (Pakistan)
63. Giraut, Frédéric (Switzerland)
64. Grava, Massimiliano (Italy)
65. Guo, Fengtao (China)
66. Hallé, Myriam (Canada)
67. Harvalík, Milan (Slovakia)
68. Hatvany, Matthew (Canada)
69. Hecimović, Željko (Croatia)
70. Helleland, Botolv (Norway)
71. Herzen, Andrey (Russia)
72. Hlongwa, Nobuhle (South Africa)
73. Hogerwerf, Jasper (Netherlands)
74. Horváth, Gergely (Hungary)
75. Huang, Wenchuan (China)
76. Imazato, Satoshi (Japan)
77. Jeney, Janos György (Hungary)
78. Jenjewka, Vincent (Zimbabwe)
79. Jones, Patrick (USA)
80. Jordan, Peter (Austria)
81. Kamel, Ahmed (Egypt)
82. Kanaujia, Kriti (India)
83. Kaneko, Junichi (Japan)
84. Kang, Peter (China)
85. Kerfoot, Helen (Canada)
86. Khamaisi, Rassem (Israel)
87. Kim, Hessu (Republic of Korea)
88. Kim, Jong-Geun (Republic of Korea)
89. Kim, Sun Bae (Republic of Korea)
90. Kim, Young-Hoon (Republic of Korea)
91. Kladnik, Drago (Slovenia)
92. Kurban, Alishir (China)
93. Lange, Jani de (South Africa)
94. Lee, Ki-Suk (Republic of Korea)
95. Letlole, Godfrey (Botswana)
96. Liebenberg, Helena (South Africa)
97. Liščák, Vladimír (Czechia)
98. Lodewyk Marais, Johann (South Africa)
99. Losang, Eric (Germany)
100. Lo Destro Chiara (Italy)

101. Loth, Chrismi Rinda (South Africa)
102. Louati, Fatima (Algeria)
103. Lozovanu, Dorin (Moldova)
104. Lucarno, Guido (Italy)
105. Lucchesi, Fabio (Italy)
106. Mácha, Přemysl (Czechia)
107. Maddock, Rebecca
108. Malvasi, Marisa
109. Mampoi, Chele (Lesotho)
110. Mamvura, Zvinashe (Zimbabwe)
111. Mandola, Małgorzata (France/Poland)
112. Manoosi, Loke (Lesotho)
113. Matthews, Philipp (New Zealand)
114. Mazibuko, Gugulethu (South Africa)
115. Meiring, Barbara (South Africa)
116. Menezes, Paulo de (Brazil)
117. Mikhailova, Ekaterina (Switzerland)
118. Mikesy, Gábor (Hungary)
119. Mishra, Ashutosh (India)
120. Moller, Lucie (South Africa)
121. Montilla, Marta (Spain)
122. Mostafavi, Mir Abolfazl
123. Muti, Guiseppe (Italy)
124. Novella Luca (Italy)
125. Nyström, Staffan (Sweden)
126. Odebode, Idowu (Nigeria)
127. Orieby, Eman (Egypt)
128. Ormeling, Ferjan (Netherlands)
129. Ozturk, Mustafa (Turkey)
130. Palagiano, Cosimo (Italy)
131. Palesa, Khotso (Lesotho)
132. Panella, Sergio (Italy)
133. Pavo, Marcos (Spain)
134. Perdana, Aji Putra (Netherlands)
135. Pereira de Souza Pinto, Beatriz Cristina (Brazil)
136. Perugi, Carlo (Italy)
137. Pfukwa, Charles (Zimbabwe)
138. Phalaagae, Lucy Mmasapatela (Botswana)
139. Plessis, Theodorus du (South Africa)
140. Puente, Dolores (Argentina)
141. Rader, Pamela (USA)
142. Raghoobar, Hein (Suriname)
143. Raper, Peter (South Africa)
144. Resende, Ana Cristina da Rocha Bérenger (Brazil)
145. Rieger, Marie A. (Italy)
146. Robinson, Lisa (USA)
147. Rodriguez, Ayar (Spain) a
148. Rodriguez, Jose A. (Spain)
149. Rossi Sebastiano (Italy)
150. Ruhstaller, Stefan (Spain)
151. Rusu, Raularian (Romania)
152. Ryu, Yeon-Taek (Republic of Korea)
153. Santos, Claudio João Barreto dos (Brazil)

154. Sasagawa, Akira (Japan)
155. Scaratti, Gian Paolo (Italy)
156. Shin, Seung-Hye (Republic of Korea)
157. Selva Orietta (Italy)
158. Siniscalchi, Silvia (Italy)
159. Stani-Fertl, Roman (Austria)
160. Steenkamp, Joan-Marié (South Africa)
161. Stoltman, Joseph (United States)
162. Sudițu, Bogdan (Romania)
163. Suh, Ir Won (Republic of Korea)
164. Sung, Hyo Hyun (Republic of Korea)
165. Tambassi, Timothy (Italy)
166. Tanabe, Hiroshi (Japan)
167. Tátrai, Patrik (Hungary)
168. Téllez, Rafael (Spain)
169. Thériault, Marie-Aurélié (Canada)
170. Thompson, Calvin (Jamaica)
171. Tort Donada, Joan (Spain)
172. Umek Dragan (Italy)
173. Vaxelaire, Jean-Louis (Belgium)
174. Wang, Wenling (China)
175. Watanabe, Kohei (Japan)
176. Weenink, Peter A. (Netherlands)
177. Westley, Steve (Canada)
178. Wilson, Mark (USA)
179. Wites, Tomasz (Poland)
180. Włoskiewicz, Wojciech (Poland)
181. Woodman, Paul (United Kingdom)
182. Worron, Tony (United Kingdom)
183. Wyss, Martin von (Australia)
184. Yi, Saangkyun (Republic of Korea)
185. Yoo, Eny-Sang (Republic of Korea)
186. Yoon, Okkyong (Republic of Korea)
187. Young, Jeffrey M. (USA)
188. Zagórski, Bogusław R. (Poland)
189. Zhu, Zhenhua (China)
190. Zych, Maciej (Poland)

Composition of the Committee by country

Country	Members
Algeria	3
Argentina	2
Australia	1
Austria	3
Belgium	1
Botswana	4
Brazil	5
Canada	6
China	8

Columbia	1
Croatia	3
Czechia	3
Egypt	2
France	2
Germany	1
Hungary	6
India	2
Indonesia	1
Israel	2
Italy	33
Jamaica	1
Japan	5
Kazachstan	2
Lesotho	3
Moldova	1
Morocco	2
Netherlands	4
New Zealand	1
Nigeria	1
Norway	1
Pakistan	2
Poland	4
Republic of Korea	17
Romania	6
Russia	1
Saudi Arabia	2
Slovenia	2
South Africa	13
Spain	11
Suriname	1
Sweden	1
Switzerland	3
Tunisia	2
Turkey	1
United Kingdom	5
USA	6
Zimbabwe	3
Tot. Countries = 47	Tot. ICA-IGU Commission Corresponding Members = 190

As of 1 January 2025, the Commission has **190** corresponding members from **47** countries and all continents are represented.

In the last four months the commission has received about **20** requests for aggregation as corresponding members.

Website: igu-icatoponymy.org

2.2 Meetings

(1) IGU Conference: The Ocean and Seas in Geographical Thought, Milan [Milano] 5.–7. June 2023

Session: Names and naming of oceans and seas as a specific and politically delicate issue

Choo, Sungjae: Names of seas and oceans as a container of identity and perception: Issues and prospects

Huang, Wenchuan: Naming policy and Practice on the Land reclamations of Hong Kong Island

Jordan, Peter: Is the endonym/exonym divide applicable on oceans and seas?

Stoltman, Joseph: Education and media: using alternative geographical names for spaces and features

Abstracts: <https://igu-chg-2023.unimib.it/wp-content/uploads/sites/152/2023/06/IGU23-Milan-Book-of-Abstracts.pdf>

(2) 31st International Cartographic Conference (ICC 2023), Cape Town 13.–18. August 2023

Session: Toponymy

Jordan, Peter: Reasons for the emergence of exonyms

Barbosa Diniz, Viviane et al.: Compatibilization of geographical names used in the Brazilian official mapping

Sui, Zhaoxu; Fish, Carolyn: Endonyms and exonyms: How map purpose, data source, and map language impact place naming on maps

Alonso, Bárbara; Sahagún Luis, Irene: Exonyms in Spanish. Criteria and usage in cartography

Yano, Keiji et al.: Development of a Japanese ‘GIS place-name dictionary’ as a basis for inter disciplinary research

(3) 9th EUGEO Congress, Barcelona 4.–9. September 2023

Session: Minority place-name standardization – A comparison of regulations and approaches in Europe

Borisova, Bilyana, Stamenkov, Ivaylo, Koulov, Boian: Geographic names of ethno-linguistic minority origin in Bulgaria: regulation and approaches

Jordan, Peter: Minority place-name standardization. A comparison of regulations and approaches in Europe

Siwek, Tadeusz: Polish minority place names in public space of Czechia

Tsitselikis, Konstantinos: Linguistic minorities in Greece. Unfinished arrangements

Vandermotten, Christian: In the country of surrealism and language conflicts, there are officially no minorities!

Petrulevich, Alexandra: Reassembling the Seventeenth-century Swedish Place-name Policies

Geršič, Matjaž, Perko, Drago: Minority place-name standardization in Slovenia

Jeney, János: The Effects of the Lack of Standardisation of Hungarian Toponyms in Slavonia

Rautio Helander, Kaisa: Standardization and recognition in law of Sámi and Kven place names in Norway

Włoskiewicz, Wojciech: Minority place-name standardization in Poland in the light of the General Theory of Name

Ira, Vladimír: Minority Place-names in Public Spaces of Slovakia

Tort Donada, Joan: Place names standardization in Catalonia (1921-2009). Considerations on the historical and current relevance of this process in the double context of Spain and Europe

(4) 7th International Symposium on Place Names (ISPN), Bloemfontein 26.–29. September 2023

Session: The presence of minority and indigenous languages in urban naming

Geršič, Matjaž, Gabrovec, Matej: Standardization of the names of public passenger transport stops

Kumin Horvat, Mojca, Geršič, Matjaž, Pipan, Primož: Slovene microtoponyms in the bilingual area in Hungary

Hudson, Kathryn: City wilds: Indigeneity, history, and urban naming in the southeastern United States

Jordan, Peter: Problems of commemorative naming in urban areas

Khamaisi, Rassem: Conflict over the ethno-national narrative and its impact on place-naming: the case of Arabs in Israel

Kolobe, Mabileba, Mokala, Ntsoaki Teresa, Mosebi, Nthathi: Community engagement in naming streets in Maseru: Navigating urban linguistic landscape

Mapeshoane, Mamotete, Kotoyi, Anele, Loth, Chrismi, de Lange, Jani, de Plessis, Theodorus: Official language, official names? A case study of SASL place names

Mawoyo, Israel: From Cape Town to Hui !Gaeb – an analysis of print media (2012-2022)

Ndenguino-Mpira, Hermann, Ompoussa, Virginie, Ndinga-Koumbo-Binza, H Steve: names of neighbourhoods in Port-Gentil: A stroll through the heart of the history of the economic city of Gabon

Rapeane-Mathonsi, Maleshoane, Mathonsi, Nhlanhla: Names, politics and power: The case of colonial and post-colonial Maseru

Sibanda, Patrick: Reflections on the signing patterns in South African Sign Language urban place naming

Siyavoshi, Sara: Urban toponymy in SASL

(5) Literary, Polar, and Extraterrestrial Place Names, Rome [Roma] 23.–24. November 2023

Session Literature place names

R. Ambrosini: “What’s in a (Place) Name?” Rivers, Islands and Seabords in Joseph Conrad’s Geopolitical Fictions

J. Tort-Donada: Names, landscape and literary construction in Josep Pla’s “The Gray Notebook”

C. Giantomasso: Placenames and territorial delimitations. Ciociaria between history, narratives and fictional representations

G. Massara: Francis Bacon’s New Atlantis

A. Ricci: The toponymy in the Sala della Cosmografia in Palazzo Farnese in Palazzo Farnese: historical and confessional meanings

A. D’Ascenzo: Imagining, exploring, naming. Toponymy from earthly myths to exogeographical realities

E. Dai Prà: Toponymy crossing in the literary spaces

V. Pecorelli: Inclusive streetscapes: gender and toponymy

G. Modaffari: A journey to Sniderton and Marconia: how Antonio Snider Pellegrini built two imaginary cities, one for the ambitions of the French colonizers of Texas, and the other for activists in the unification of Italy

G. Casagrande: Mapping and naming places across the ever-changing boundaries of oecumene

V. Valerio: Italian Geographers and place names of Oceania in the first decades of the 19th century

Session Polar place names

D. Michalec: Czech names of geographic objects in polar regions

Session extraterrestrial place names

P. Mácha: Stellar Cartography, Xenonathropology and Galactic Age of Humanity in Star Trek Proper Names

Students of 4C of the Liceo Galileo Ferraris of Rome: Lunar Craters Toponymy
 Students of 4C of the Liceo Galileo Ferraris of Rome: Celestial bodies and their names: from mythology to the catalogues
 C. Sigismondi: Francesco Bianchini and the Celidography of Venus
 C. Sigismondi: The passages of the Sun at the meridian of Rome

(6) 35st International Geographical Congress 2024, Dublin 24.–30. August 2024

Session: Cloning the place names. Chairperson: Cosimo Palagiano

Summary: Many city names have garnered a particular meaning for various reasons, becoming readily globally recognisable. The reasons can be different, from historical to artistic to literary ones. Particular place names can be repeated across the globe, with different languages in various parts of the world, not only because of their urban or artistic affinities, but also for more different reasons linked to the reputation that the original name has assumed over time. In many cases, the majority of ‘original names’ are European in origin, and the new ones are in other parts of the world, including the Americas, Oceania or in the colonized countries of Africa. Many contemporary place names are therefore clones of old place names through imitation. In other contexts place names, in addition to their own, take on an appellation referring to cardinal points. This session welcomes papers that examine place name cloning in both contemporary and historic contexts and examines the reasons for this and challenges that it represents. Participants are welcome from a range of backgrounds, career stages, and interests.

Numbers of participants: 14

Rossi, Sebastiano, Tirone, Junio Valerio, Ciola, Marcello: Naming along the front: an investigation into the birth and survival of cloned toponyms in the Italian military cartography of the First World War
 D'Ascenzo, Annalisa: Cloning of names, onomaturgy and construction of a new mappa mundi in the Letter of Giovanni da Verrazzano
 Casagrande, Gianluca, Frigeri, Alessandro: From Earth to planets: assigning and cloning place names to extend humankind's reach
 Dai Prà, Elena, Novella, Luca: A toponymic study of Veneto emigration: cloned toponyms in founded towns and neighborhoods
 De Santis, Giovanni, Bartolini, Annamaria: From Abruzzo to the Americas: San Giovanni da Capestrano as an emblematic case
 Geršič, Matjaž: Cloning geographical names - some examples from Slovenia
 Matthews, Philip Walter: The relevance of the concept of “cloning” in an analysis of place names in New Zealand
 Kang, Peter: The place names cloning from Europe in contemporary Taiwan

Session: Toponymy: Bi- or multilingual place names as markers of national, regional and local space-related identity. Chairperson: Peter Jordan

Summary of the main topics: Toponymy, identity, community voice and the stories we tell: what has changed since the introduction of new placenaming rules in Victoria, Australia ; Dialect place names as markers of local and regional space-related identity. The example of Austria; Multilingual place-names as identity markers in Romania; German place names in contemporary Czechia; ‘Toponymy from Below’: Nea Liosia / Ilion, a case study of shaping local identities in late-20th century Greece Place names, identity, and national cohesion in a multicultural region.

Numbers of participants: 18

(7) EuroCarto 2024, Vienna [Wien] 9.–11. September 2024**Toponymy and Topography**

Francis Harvey, Eric Losang: Making the World a Better Place: Map by Map, Toponym by Toponym

Roman Stani-Fertl: The Open Gazetteer of Open Maps for Europe and Minority Toponyms

Klaus Freitag, Johannes Liem, Philipp Mitterschiffthaler: Austrian vecMap – Vector Tiles for the Austrian Map Online

Günter Kyncl, Jakub Lysák: Automatic digital rock drawing using a “ladder style” representation

Nikos Tzelepis: Multi-directional Analytical Hill-Shading for Enhanced Cartographic Relief Presentation

Piotr Owczarek, Małgorzata Wieczorek, Michał Łopuch: Changes in the extent of a glacier based on topographic maps and satellite images – possibilities and limitations on the example of the de Ferpectle glacier

Numbers of participants: 12

2.3 Meetings planned for 2025

- (1) International Cartographic Conference (ICC 2025), Vancouver 16.–22. August 2025:
two panel on Toponymy
- (2) 8th International Symposium on Place Names, Clarence 26.–29. November 2025
- (3) Conference on the Toponymy of Linguistic Minorities, Trento (2-3 July 2025) jointly with UNGEGN - Romano-Hellenic Division

2.4 Networking

The Commission has long established partnerships and scientific relations with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), in which Peter Jordan, Cosimo Palagiano, Elena Dai Prà and Matjaž Geršič are involved.

In the occasion of the International Scientific Symposium “Toponyms as a means of expressing identification, location, possession, belonging, division, and respect for peoples’ cultures” (Roma, 11th - 13th September 2024), organised by the UNGEGN - Romano-Hellenic Division, Peter Jordan, Cosimo Palagiano and Elena Dai Prà served on the scientific committee, Matjaž Geršič brought a communication and Elena Dai Prà coordinated the opening session of the Symposium.

Members of UNGEGN, geographers, historians, linguists, planners and cartographers participated in the symposium. The contributions covered the following topics: preservation of the toponymic heritage, historical maps and toponymy, *genius loci* and identity, etymological studies, place names of historical linguistic minorities, vernacular place names, new toponyms, endonyms/exonyms, role of national and regional geographical names authorities.

2.5 Publications

- The proceedings of the Conference “Literary , Polar and Extraterrestrial Place names” (Roma, december 2023) are in process of being published.
Open edition.
- The chair Dai Prà proposed to coordinate the publication of panel proceedings “Cloning the place names” of the IGU Dublin congress (Dublin 2024) to leave an editorial mark of what was discussed during the

conference. The Steering Committee agree. Deadline call for papers: 1 April. The papers will be published in a special issue of the Italian Military Geographic Institute in English.
Open edition

- Newsletter december 2023 (attached)
- Newsletter december 2024 (attached)

2.6 Popularization

- The Commission is working to produce a scientific “dossier” on the current issue of the Gulf of Mexico name change to answer questions from journalist.

The Group of Experts is requested to:

- (1) Take note of the efforts made to spread the knowledge on geographical names and to foster geographical and cartographic research in toponymy.
- (2) Consider new topics and fields of toponymic research so far insufficiently cultivated and to be addressed by future projects of the Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy.
- (3) Consider how the Joint ICA/IGU Commission on Toponymy could enforce its support for UNGEGN’s main task of place-name standardization.

The Chairs

Elena Dai Prà and Matjaž Geršič