



# Economic and Social Council

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## 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 Liaison Officer with the International Council of Onomastic Sciences

### Summary\*\*

The report contains information on the International Council of Onomastic Sciences as a scientific organization, including its newsletter, journal (*Onoma*), four working groups, lecture series (Onomastics Online), summer school, congresses and cooperation efforts and affiliated organizations.

Activities during the reporting period that are most relevant to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names are the founding of a working group on toponymy in 2024 and the intention of the Council and its Working Group on Terminology to resume their efforts to harmonize onomastic terms with those in the glossary maintained by the Group of Experts.

The Council's Working Group on Toponymy has the task of promoting research on toponymy using a holistic approach, i.e. from the perspectives of all sciences engaged in and relevant to onomastics. In detail, its tasks are the following:

- To propose and organize sessions on place names in the framework of relevant conferences and congresses
- To organize symposiums on toponymy in cooperation with local host institutions
- To develop, support and cooperate in toponymic research and book projects
- To cultivate international cooperation with relevant global organizations, including the Group of Experts, the International Organization for Standardization, the International Cartographic Association and the International Geographical Union, with the two last-mentioned organizations represented by

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

\*\* The full report was prepared by Peter Jordan (Austria), Austrian Academy of Sciences and Liaison Officer with the International Council of Onomastic Sciences. The report will be available at [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th\\_session\\_2025/](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/), in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2025/18/CRP.18.



the Joint International Cartographic Association/International Geographical Union Commission on Toponymy

The Working Group on Toponymy, which has 60 registered members from 32 countries on all continents, organized toponymic sessions at the Council's Congress and at the International Geographical Union Congress, both held in August 2024.

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