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**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names
2025 session**

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda *

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

Report of Hungary 2023–2024

Submitted by Hungary**

* GEGN.2/2025/1.

** Prepared by Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names – Tamás Koós, Gábor Mikesy, Andrea Böleskei, László Lippmann.

National report		
A	<p>Summary <i>A short summary, which describes main points of the national report. This part is also usually sent in a separate document before the national report.</i></p>	<p><u>Operational framework:</u> There have been no changes in the legislative background, in the composition of the Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names (HCGN) or in the officers. The governmental supervisory body for geographical name issues, the Department of Real Estate Registration and Cartography has been transferred from the Prime Minister's Office to the Ministry of Public Administration and Regional Development.</p> <p><u>Activity:</u> The HCGN holds four meetings per year as a rule, and has also made use of electronic discussion and voting in several urgent cases. Two thirds of the cases received by the HCGN concern public spaces and the parts of municipalities that have a role in the creation of addresses. Dozens of railway station names were decided. There is a growing trend towards the use of proper names for bridges. The Committee has prepared a comprehensive regulation of certain categories of names under its scope of responsibility: airports, bridges, nationality names. The collection and local coordination of map names at a scale of 1:10 000 is continuing.</p> <p><u>Country names:</u> In addition to a number of minor changes, one major change has been made to the official list of country names of Hungary: the form <i>Nagy-Britannia</i> ('Great Britain') has been replaced by <i>Egyesült Királyság</i> ('United Kingdom') as the preferred short variant.</p> <p><u>International cooperation:</u> Representatives of the HCGN followed the 2023 UNGEGN Session online, and they attended the 28th ECSEED meeting in Prague in May 2024 and the meeting of Working Group of Exonyms at the same time. We contributed to the content of the Slovenian-language map of the Slovenian minority area in Hungary, prepared by our Slovenian colleagues. Hungary has taken over the chairmanship of UNGEGN's Eastern, Central and South-Eastern Europe Division (ECSEED) from January 2025.</p>
B	<p>Member state report on the situation in their country <i>The progress made in the standardization of geographical names since the last UNGEGN session (news in the field of geonames in the country, progress of ongoing projects, finished projects, issues and use cases for inspiration for other countries, changes in database of geonames).</i></p>	<p><u>Activity of the HCGN:</u> It has held 7 sessions since the last report in March 2023. It has discussed 87 items, and has taken 53 decisions. The decisions are available at the link below by selecting the paragraph "A Földrajzinév-bizottság döntései". These are currently available only in Hungarian. https://kormany.hu/miniszterelnokseg/foldrajzinev-bizottsag</p> <p>The majority of decisions concerned the naming practices by local governments, such as part of settlements, streets, small water features, etc. HCGN has prepared guidelines for local authorities on how to prepare a geographical naming decision.</p> <p>Among the significant feature types, the importance of bridge names has increased. Although it is not mandatory for bridges to have a unique proper name, but there is a social demand for it. Previously there was no agreed procedure for the management and registration of bridge names. A new register of major bridges (named and unnamed) has now been established and discussions are underway on name standardization with organisations responsible for building bridges. Names of new bridges over the river Ipoly/Ipel' forming the boundary between Hungary and Slovakia: <i>Szent Borbála híd</i> (HUN) / <i>Most Svätej Barbory</i> (SVK), <i>Szent-Iványi híd</i> (HUN) / <i>Most Szent-Iványi</i> (SVK). Some other notable new names: <i>Tomori Pál híd</i> (Danube/Duna), <i>Szent Márton híd</i> (viaduct, highway 86).</p> <p>A new register of airports (public and private) has been created for standardization. The names of airports show irregularities and linguistic</p>

		<p>errors due to irregular naming. Although HCGN is supposed to be responsible for naming and renaming, many airports use self-created names. HCGN has prepared a proposed name list for discussion with the transport authorities.</p> <p>In order to promote the use of minority settlement names, the tables registering justified cases have been updated on the basis of the census 2022.</p> <p><u>Gazetteer of Hungary:</u> The Gazetteer of Hungary database is maintained by the Department of Land Registry and Geodesy of Lechner Nonprofit Ltd: https://lechnerkozpont.hu/en. Both essential parts of the gazetteer are being significantly developed as part of the National Geoinformatic Basemap project. In the medium-scale part (1:50,000), the localisation (sometimes also the name form) is being revised on the basis of new mapping and statistical sources and through consultation with local authorities. The large-scale part (1:10,000) is in the process of digitising new field survey material.</p> <p>The latest data on settlements and their parts can be found on the website of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office: https://www.ksh.hu/apps/hntr.main?p_lang=EN</p> <p>National Geoinformatic Basic Map Project (in progress): integration of thematic databases; of the 9 basic layers one is for geographical names. The level of detail is not limited. Availability is by arrangement.</p> <p><u>Names of administrative units – County names:</u> The replacement of the term for the most important administrative unit “megye”, with the term “vármegye” at all levels of use of names is underway.</p> <p><u>Issues to be resolved:</u> strengthening consistency across different geographic name datasets (statistical registry, naming of municipalities, nature conservation, water sector, etc.)</p>
C	<p>National and international meetings, conferences, symposiums, publicity and publications</p> <p>- date of the meeting - name of the meeting - place of the meeting - main theme - useful information from the meeting - in case of publications, guidelines: how often are they issued, what is the content of these publications</p>	<p>28th meeting of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of the UNGEGN. Prague, 16th May 2024. Andrea Bölcskei and Gábor Mikešy.</p> <p>26th meeting of the Working Group on Exonyms. Prague, 14th May 2024. Andrea Bölcskei and Gábor Mikešy.</p> <p>Internationalen Gedenksymposium zu Ehren von Josef Breu (1914–1998) und Otto Back (1926–2018). Geographische Namen im Gebrauch – angewandte Toponomastik in ihrer Vielfalt. Wien, 6–7 November, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SASI, A.: <i>Minoritätenortsnamen in Ungarn – aktuelle Lage, Status, amtlicher und nicht amtlicher Gebrauch</i>. <p>Onomastics Online. International Council of Onomastic Sciences, online lecture series, 5 April 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GERCSÁK, G.: <i>Principles of place naming in the new national atlas of Hungary</i>. <p>Symposium “Naming the Community”. Prague, May 16–17, 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BÖLCSKEI, A.–MIKESY, G.: <i>An overview of the history of conceptual place-name changes in Hungary</i> <p>XXIV Transylvanian Surveyors' Meeting. Alba Iulia (Gyulafehérvár), 21–24. September, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SASI, A.: <i>Landscape names of Carpathian Basin in the service of national policies</i>.

	<p>- publicity: articles in international professional magazines, publication of own professional magazines.</p>	<p>XXV Transylvanian Surveyors' Meeting. Csíksomlyó (Șumuleu Ciuc), 19–22. September, 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SASI, A.: <i>Hungarian place names from Csíksomlyó to Neszterfejérvár</i> • MIKESY, G.: <i>Place names of northern Transylvania on the military topographical map of 1940–44.</i> <p>BÖLCSKEI, A.: Recent Changes to Budapest Street Names. In: FELECAN, O. – BUGHEȘIU, A. (eds.) 2024. <i>Name and Naming. Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Onomastics "Name and Naming"</i>. (In)correctness in Onomastics. Baia Mare, September 5–7, 2023. Cluj-Napoca: Editura Mega.</p> <p>GERCSÁK, G.: Földrajzinév-használat a magyar nemzeti atlaszokban (1967–2021). [Use of geographic names in Hungarian national atlases (1967–2021)]. <i>Geodézia és Kartográfia</i> 76. [2024] 1.</p> <p>GERCSÁK, G.: Nagytájneveink változásai (1920–2018). [Changes of names of Hungarian Macroregions (1920–2018)] <i>GeoMetodika</i> 7 [2024] 1.</p> <p>GERCSÁK, G.: A Cartactual és Cartinform térképszolgálat. On the Cartactual and Cartinform Map Service (1965–1993). In: <i>Cartographia</i> 70. Budapest, 2024.</p> <p>MÁRTONFI, A.–LACZKÓ, K.: <i>Helyesírás [Orthography (including the renewed orthography of geographical names)]</i>. Osiris Kiadó. Budapest, 2025.</p> <p>MIKESY, G.: Egységesítés a földrajzi nevek használatában 5–7. [Standardization in the use of geographical names 5–7.] <i>Catastrum</i> 10:2;4 [2023]; 11:3 [2024].</p> <p>PERGER, I.: Új vasútállomásnevekről döntött a Földrajzinév-bizottság [New railway station names decided by the Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names]. <i>Indóház</i> 20:6 [2024].</p> <p>PERGER, I.: Országnevek a magyar vasúton [Country names on the Hungarian railway]. <i>Magyar Nyelvőr</i> 148:3 [2024].</p>
D	<p>Measures taken and proposed to implement United Nations resolutions on the standardization of geographical names, including the economic and social benefits</p> <p><i>Information, recommendations, guidelines in legislative, control management.</i></p>	<p>without changes</p>

E	National standardization	
<i>Ea</i>	Field collection of names	The new survey of geographical names for 1:10,000 scale map content continues. Another 2% of the country's territory has been completed. Digitizing of paper-based detailed (1:10, 000) fieldwork materials is in progress, which has been given new dynamism under the National Geoinformatic Basic Map Project.
<i>Eb</i>	Office treatment of names	without changes
<i>Ec</i>	Treatment of names in multilingual areas	The database of settlements with potential minority names has been updated based on the 2022 census, according to population, minority self-government and other aspects. The HCGN's aim with updating is to promote the more frequent and appropriate use of minority geographical names.
<i>Ed</i>	Administrative structure of national names authorities, legislation, policies and procedures	The structural framework for the standardization of geographical names in Hungary has changed due to the fact that it was transferred into the scope of duties of the Ministry of Public Administration and Regional Development from 1 January 2024. The legal basis, i.e. Government Decree No. 303/2007 (XI. 14.) is still in force, not changed. Details on the status and membership of the Hungarian Committee on Geographical Names (HCGN): https://kormany.hu/kozigazgatasi-es-teruletfejlesztési-minisztérium/foldrajzinev-bizottság
<i>Ee</i>	Toponymic guidelines for map editors and other editors	without changes
F.	Geographical names as culture, heritage and identity <i>Including indigenous, minority and regional language names.</i>	without changes
G.	Exonyms <i>New exonyms, extinct exonyms, projects regarding exonyms.</i>	
H.	Toponymic data files and gazetteers	
<i>Ha</i>	Content requirements and standards	without changes
<i>Hb</i>	Data management and interoperability	without changes

Hc	Data services, applications and products <i>Including gazetteers and web services.</i>	The National Geoinformational Base Map applies standardised names, constantly correcting location data and integrating names used in different sectors (water management, transport etc.). https://nta.lechnerkozpont.hu/
I	Terminology in the standardization of geographical names <i>New or changed definitions and terms.</i>	without changes * Hungarian translation for Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names exists: https://edit.elte.hu/xmlui/static/pdf-viewer-master/external/pdfjs-2.1.266-dist/web/viewer.html?file=https://edit.elte.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10831/34318/HunIntOnomTerm2017_withCover.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y , pp. 125–189
J	Writing systems and pronunciation	
Ja	Romanization	without changes.
Jb	Conversion into non-Roman writing systems	without changes
Jc	Writing of names in unwritten languages	unsolved
Jd	Pronunciation	without changes
K	Country names <i>New or changed country names from the UNGEGN List of Country Names that were imported to the list of geonames in this country (in language of this country).</i>	<u>United Kingdom</u> : In the Hungarian list of country names, the short name of <i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i> had changed from <i>Nagy-Britannia</i> (Great Britain) to <i>Egyesült Királyság</i> (United Kingdom). The former primary name <i>Nagy-Britannia</i> remains as a registered variant. Previously, the relationship between the two names was exactly the opposite. Updated list of country names (2024): https://kormany.hu/kozigazgatasi-es-teruletfejlesztési-minisztérium/foldrajzinev-bizottsag , click on “Ország- és területnevek”.
L	Toponymic education <i>Toponymical courses, works in organisation, issues and solution of problems.</i>	Two African candidates defended their PhD theses on toponomastics at ELTE University, partly with the cooperation of HCGN members. Multiannual toponymic programme in the Department of Geoinformatics of Óbuda University – introduction to the onomastics, names as cultural heritage, digitisation practices.
M	Features beyond a single sovereignty and international cooperation	
Ma		
Mb	Bilateral and multilateral agreements	
Mc	Coastal seas	without changes
Md	Geonames of international waters and	without changes

	<i>marine features in international waters</i>	
Me	Geonames in Antarctica	without changes
Mf	International cooperation <i>Cooperation with institutions, countries – specific project.</i>	Joining the “Minority place-name standardization” (handbook) project (initiated by Peter Jordan). Cooperation with Slovenian colleagues to create the Slovenian-language map of the Slovenian minority area in Hungary “Ledinska imena Slovenskega Porabja” (joint fieldwork, onomastic discussions).
N.	Arrangements for the UNGEGN <i>Creating national and other reports, creating articles for Bulletin, communication, cooperation and fulfilment of tasks from the UNGEGN.</i>	
O	Supporting sustainable development <i>Activities related to geonames that support sustainable development.</i>	
P	Other <i>If the country has worked on something special, that is not mentioned in this model.</i>	