



COMMISSION ON STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OUTSIDE THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
affiliated to the Surveyor General of Poland

Report of Poland on the situation in the standardization of geographical names

for the period since the 22nd Meeting of the Baltic Division in Warsaw, 2023

Maciej Zych

Official names

Names of localities and physiographic objects are standardized by the Commission on Names of Localities and Physiographic Objects and next approved by a regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration published in the *Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland*.

The latest, third edition of the national gazetteer entitled *List of official names of localities and their parts* was published in December 2019. The list contains 102,875 official names of localities and their parts, of which: 940 names of towns and cities, 43,057 – villages, 6,783 – parts of towns/cities, 36,044 – parts of villages, 5,137 – settlements, 4,585 – hamlets of villages.

Official names

Changes of the names given in the list are published each year in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland, and come into force on January 1 – these changes are effect of changes in the names, as well as changes in type of name.

The following changes took place on January 1, 2024:

New names	Changed names				Abolished names
	Total	Name only	Name and the type	Type only	
92	859	90	12	757	213

Official names

Changes of names of administrative units in 2024:

- 1 gmina (commune – 3rd level administrative unit)



Multilingual areas

National minorities:

- Belorussian
- Czech
- Lithuanian
- German
- Armenian
- Russian
- Slovak
- Ukrainian
- Jewish

Ethnic minorities:

- Karait
- Lemko (Rusyn)
- Roma
- Tartar

Regional language

- Kashubian

Multilingual areas

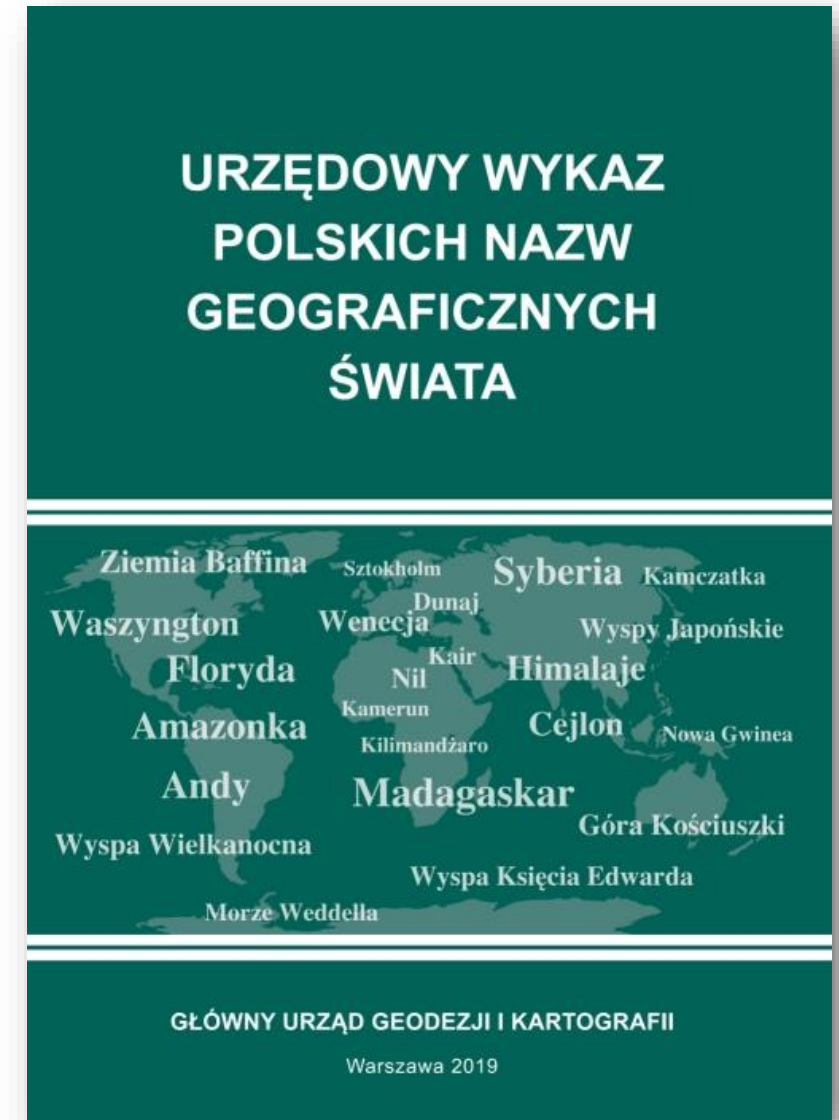
Since 2005 additional names in minority languages were introduced for 1252 localities. This number consists of 359 German names, 827 Kashubian names, 30 Lithuanian names, 27 Belarusian and 9 Lemko names.



Exonyms

Official list of Polish geographical names of the world

- prepared by the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland
- published in the end of 2019
- included Polish names for **13,599** geographical objects that lie outside the boundaries of Poland



<https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/list-of-polish-geographical-names-of-the-world2>

Exonyms

Official list of Polish geographical names of the world is regular updated.

In the period from March 2023 to September 2024 the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland:

- standardized 12 Polish exonyms
- changed 14 exonyms
- delisted 4 exonyms

AUSTRALIA

Nazwy zmienione:

Półwysep Eyre'a; Eyre Peninsula; 34°00'S, 135°45'E – zamiast *Półwysep Eyrego* [126]

INDONEZJA

Nazwy skasowane:

Irian Zachodni; **Papua Zachodnia**; Irian Barat; 4°00'S, 137°30'E – dla regionu [127]

WŁOCHY

Nazwy dodane:

Autostrada Słońca; Autostrada del Sole; 45°25'43"N, 9°14'51"E ↔ 40°51'06"N 14°19'01"E – dla drogi [128]

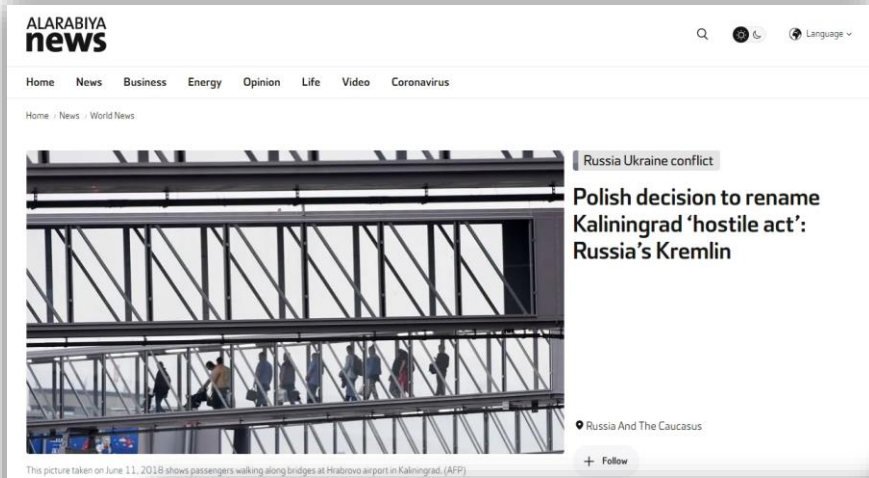
Exonym change for Kaliningrad, Russia

At the meeting on April 12, 2023 the Commission decided to:

- change the names **Kaliningrad** and **Królewiec**, previously recommended for use in Polish, to only the name **Królewiec**
- change the name **obwód kaliningradzki** [Kaliningrad Oblast], which was previously recommended for use in Polish, to **obwód królewiecki**



Exonym change for Kaliningrad



Exonyms

The addendum to the *Official list of Polish geographical names of the world* containing the Polish names of the most important buildings and other urban objects.

The addendum contains Polish names for 1691 buildings and other urban objects. The publication is planned for the end of 2024 (only online).

Place

plac Karola; Karlovo náměstí; 50°04'33"N, 14°25'12"E [Praga]
plac Wacława; Václavské náměstí; 50°04'56"N, 14°25'35"E [Praga]
Rynek Staromiejski; Staroměstské náměstí; 50°05'15"N, 14°25'16"E [Praga]

Mosty

most Karola; Karlův most; 50°05'11,5"N, 14°24'41"E [Praga]

Świątynie, klasztory, miejsca kultu

kaplica Betlejemska; Betlémská kaple; 50°05'03,7"N, 14°25'03"E [Praga]
katedra Boskiego Zbawiciela; Katedrála Božského Spasitele; 49°50'09"N, 18°17'20,5"E [Ostrawa]
katedra Świętego Wacława; Katedrála svatého Václava; 49°35'52"N, 17°15'46"E [Ołomuniec]
katedra Świętego Wita; *ofic. katedra Świętych Wita, Wacława i Wojciecha*; chrám svatého Vít; *ofic. Katedrála svatého Vít, Václava a Vojtěcha*; 50°05'27"N, 14°24'02"E [Praga]

Exonyms

All names from *Official list of Polish geographical names of the world* has been added to the National Register of Geographical Names (PRNG)



<https://prng.geoportal.gov.pl>

Toponymic data files

The National Register of Geographical Names – PRNG (maintained by the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography) holds 255,877 names (as on 20th April 2024):

- 124,442 names of localities and its parts
- 131,435 names of physiographical objects:
 - 22,882 names of water objects
 - 33,305 names of land shaping objects
 - 75,248 names of other objects

Toponymic data files

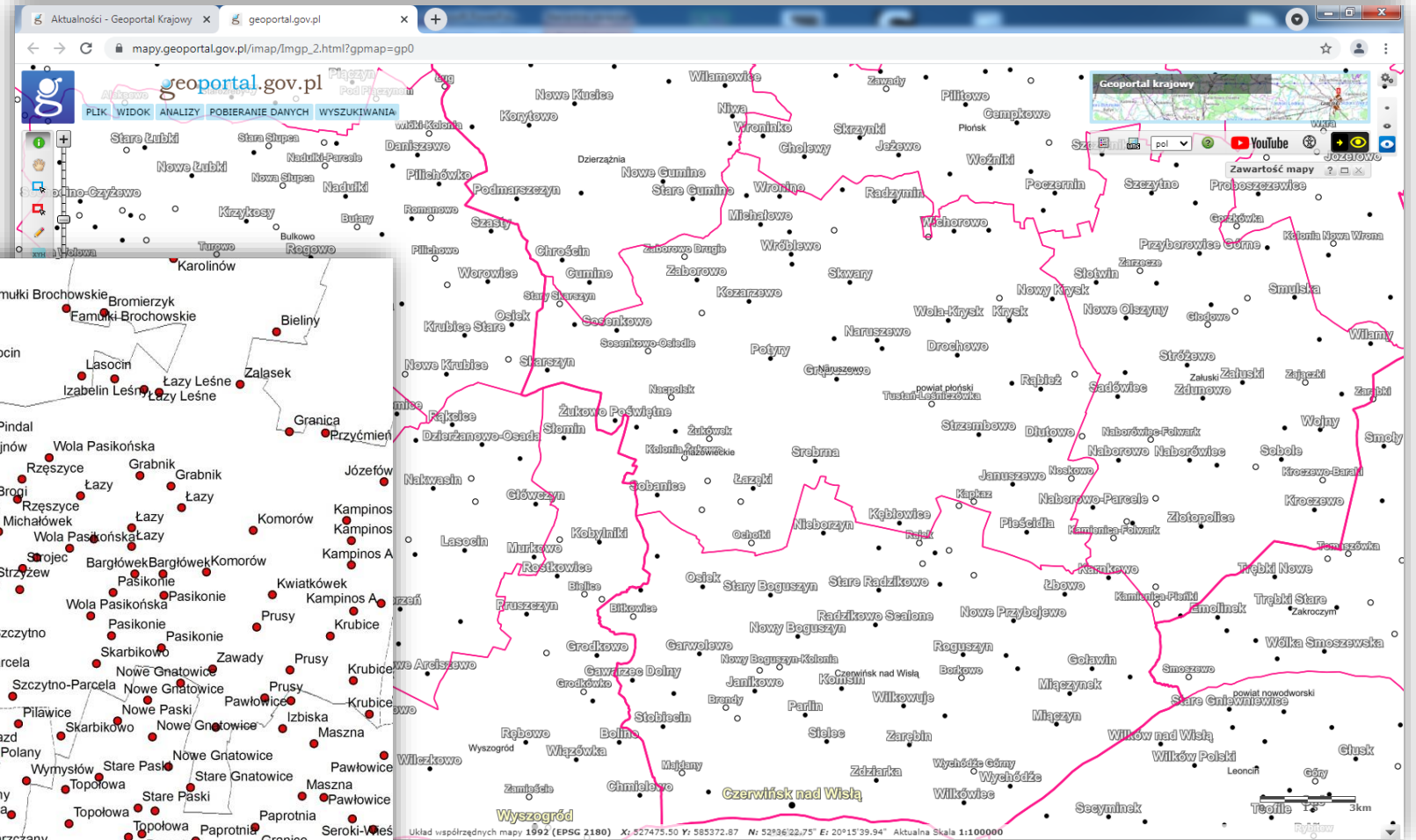
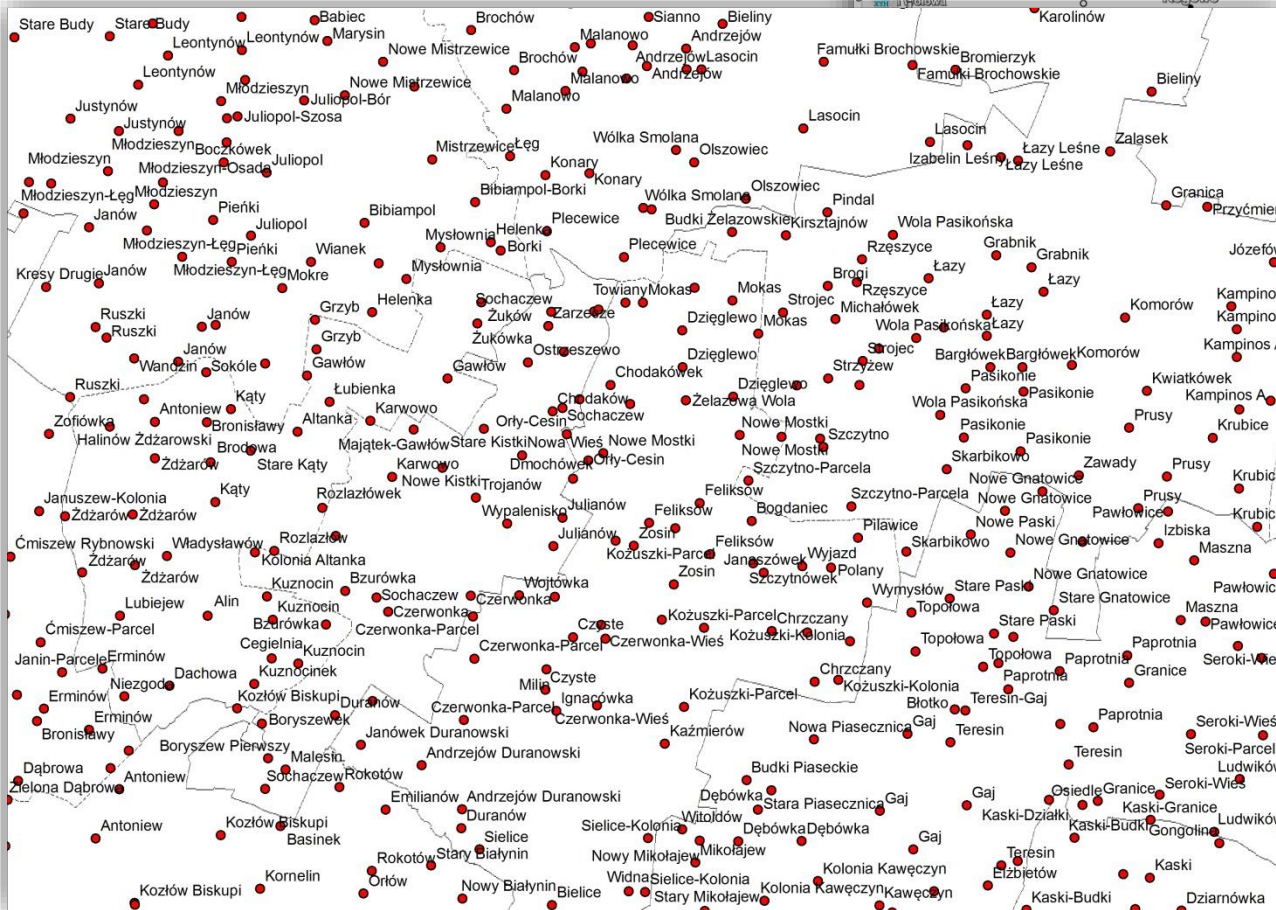
In the Register the following types of names are collected:

- official names (i.e. names published by a regulation of the Minister, 137,829 names)
- standardized names (i.e. names adopted by the Commission on Names of Localities and Physiographical Objects but not yet published by a regulation of the Minister, 26,597 names)
- unstandardized names (i.e. other names listed on topographic maps or other sources, 91,451 names)
- minority names (1,252 names)

Open data

geoportal.gov.pl

shapefile (ArcGIS)



Open data

Publication prepared by the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland are also available as an open data:

- *Official list of Polish geographical names of the world* (with inset in English):
<https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/list-of-polish-geographical-names-of-the-world>
- *Official list of names of countries and non-self-governing territories* (with inset in English): <https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/country-names2>
- *Toponymic Guidelines of Poland for Map Editors and Other Users* (bilingual English-Polish): <https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/toponymic-guidelines-of-poland>
- *List of English names of major geographical features situated in the territory of the Republic of Poland* (English and Polish versions):
<https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/other-publications>
- *Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names* – Polish edition:
<https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/other-publications>
- Romanization rules (in Polish only):
<https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng/zasady-latynizacji>
- *List of Polish locality names from Ukraine* (in Polish only):
<https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng/wykaz-polskich-nazw-miejscowosci-z-obszaru-ukrainy2>

Country names

Official list of names of countries and non-self-governing territories
(7th edition)

- prepared by the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland
- published in the end of 2023
- contains 195 countries recognized by Poland and 69 non-self-governing territories
- <https://www.gov.pl/web/ksng-en/country-names2>



Country names

Somalia

Afryka

pol. **Somalia**, *D.* Somalii, *Mc.* Somalii; **Federalna Republika Somalii**
somalijski Soomaaliya; Jamhuuriyadda Federaalka Soomaaliya //
arab. اَلصُّومَال – *trl.* Aş-Şūmāl, *trb.* As-Sumal; جُمهُورِيَّةُ الصُّومَالِ اَلْفِيدِرَالِيَّة – *trl.* Jumhūriyyat aş-Şūmāl al-Fīdirāliyyah, *trb.* Džumhurijjat as-Sumal al-Fidiralijja
przym. somalijski
obyw. Somalijczyk, Somalijka, Somalijczycy
stol. **Mogadyszu** *ndm.;* Muqdisho (*somalijski*) // مَقْدِيشُو – *trl.* Maqdīshū, *trb.* Makdiszu (*arab.*)

Sri Lanka

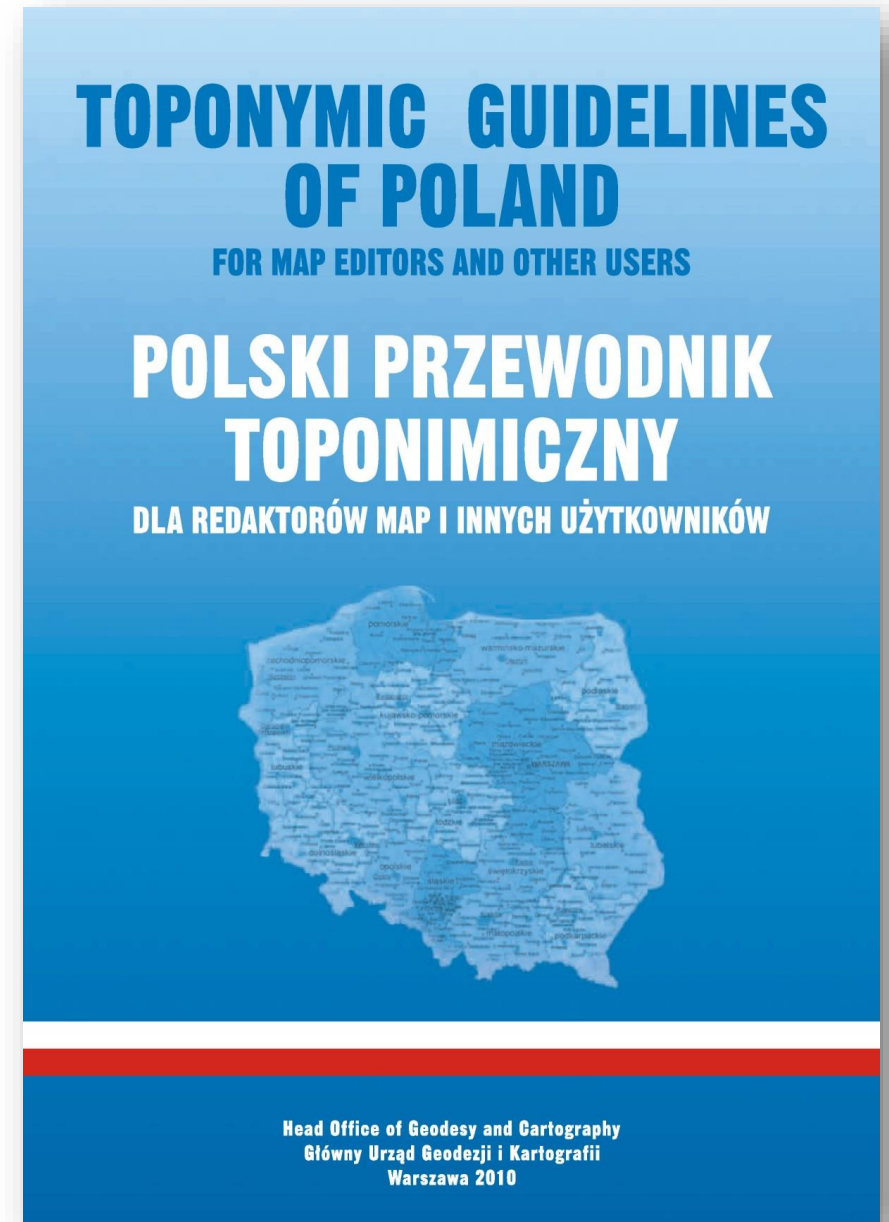
Azja

pol. **Sri Lanka**, *D.* Sri Lanki, *Mc.* Sri Lance; **Demokratyczno-Socjalistyczna Republika Sri Lanki**
syngaleski ශ්‍රී ලංකා – *trl.* Śrī Laṁkā, *trb.* Sri Lanka; ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජය – *trl.* Śrī Laṁkā Prajātāntrika Samājavādī Janarajaya, *trb.* Sri Lanka Pradžatantriaka Samadžawadi Džanaradžaja // *tamili* இலங்கை – *trl.* Ilaṅkai, *trb.* Ilangaj; இலங்கை சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு – *trl.* Ilaṅkai Caṇanāyaka Cōcalicak Kuṭiyaracu, *trb.* Ilangaj Sananajaka Sosalisak Kudijarasu

Toponymic guidelines

Toponymic guidelines of Poland for map editors and other users
(4th edition)

- prepared by the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland
- published in December 2010
- **5th updated and revised edition: December 2024**



International co-operation

Members of the Commission participated in:

- 30 March, 2023 (on-line): 3rd Meeting of UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs
- 1-5 May, 2013 (New York, United States): 3rd Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
- 5 September, 2023 (Prague, Czechia): 7th Joint Tripartite Meeting of Geographical Names Commissions of Czechia, Poland and Slovakia
- 13-18 August, 2023 (Cape Town, South Africa): toponymic sessions of the Joint International Geographical Union/International Cartographic Association Commission on Toponymy during the 31st International Cartographic Conference of the International Cartographic Association
- 14 November, 2023 (on-line): 4th Meeting of UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs
- 12 April, 2024 (on-line): 5th Meeting of UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs
- 14-16 May, 2004 (Prague, Czechia): Joint the 26th Meeting of the Working Group on Exonyms and the 28th Meeting of the East Central and South-East Europe Division of UNGEGN
- 9-11 September, 2024 (Vienna, Austria): toponymic session of the Joint International Geographical Union/International Cartographic Association Commission on Toponymy during the European Cartographic Conference – EuroCarto2024 of the International Cartographic Association



COMMISSION ON STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OUTSIDE THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
affiliated to the Surveyor General of Poland

Thank you

Maciej Zych

*Chair of the Commission on Standardization of Geographical
Names Outside the Republic of Poland*