

## ROMANIZATION OF ARMENIAN

On 3 March, 2011 the Government of Armenia adopted a *Regulation No. 220-N on the Rendering of Armenian Geographical Names into English and Russian*.

The text of the regulation does not contain the full list of characters with their equivalents in Roman script, only the following characters are mentioned in the text itself: ծ (No. 14 in the table below) = ts, ձ (17) = dz, դ (18) = gh, ճ (19) = ch, ք (36) = k, փ (35) = p, խ (13) = kh, ժ (10) = zh. The regulation also contains some spelling conventions (see the end of the document).

The regulation includes the list of Armenian populated places with their names in Armenian and in Russian and English transcription. Based on this list, the following table has been compiled. All English equivalents in Column 3 that are deduced from the list, are in parentheses. Examples have been taken from the list. Note that the order of characters is the same as given in the WGRS report on Armenian on the website <http://www.eki.ee/wgrs/>, with a small difference in character No. 37.

Following correspondence with Mr. Artur Avdalyan from the Armenian national mapping authority the Armenian experts from the State Committee of the Real Property Cadastre of the Government of the Republic of Armenia with the agreement of the Armenian Language Institute and the Terminological Committee have compiled and submitted to the UNGEEN WG on Romanization Systems a **draft romanization system for Armenian** (letter of 28 October 2011, signed by Mr. Yervand Zakharyan, Chairman of the State Committee.). The draft romanization is given in Column 4.

No.	Arm.	English	Roman.	Example	Romanization
1	Ա ա	(a)	a	Արագածոտն	Aragats'otn
2	Բ բ	(b)	b	Բազմադրյուր	Bazmakhyur
3	Գ գ	(g)	g	Գառնահովիտ	Garnahovit
4	Դ դ	(d)	d	Դաշտադեմ	Dashtadem
5	Ե ե	(e, ye)	ye, e	Եղեգնավան	Yeghegnavan
6	Զ զ	(z)	z	Զանգակատուն	Zangakatun
7	Է է	((e))	e	Էջմիածին	Ejmiatsin
8	Ը ը	((y))	<i>not romanized</i>		
9	Թ թ	(t)	t'	Թաթուլ	T'at'ul

10	Ժ ժ	zh	zh	Հարժիս	Harzhis
11	Ի ի	(i)	i	Ջիլիզա	Jiliza
12	Լ լ	(l)	l	Լուսառատ	Lusarrat
13	Խ խ	kh	kh	Խաչար	Khachpar
14	Ծ ծ	ts	ts'	Ծովինար	Ts'ovinar
15	Կ կ	(k)	k	Կարբի	Karbi
16	Հ հ	(h)	h	Հնաբերդ	Hnaberd
17	Չ ձ	dz	dz	Մերձավան	Merdzavan
18	Դ դ	gh	gh	Գեղամաբակ	Geghamabak
19	Ճ ճ	ch	ch'	Ճոճկան	Ch'och'kan
20	Մ մ	(m)	m	Մրգաստան	Mrgastan
21	Յ յ	(y)	y	Մյասնիկյան	Myasnikyan
22	Ն ն	(n)	n	Նորավան	Noravan
23	Շ շ	(sh)	sh	Շենավան	Shenavan
24	Ո ո	(o, vo)	vo, o	Ոսկեհատ Նորապատ	Voskehat Norapat
25	Չ չ	(ch)	ch	Գորգոչ	Gorrgoch
26	Պ պ	(p)	p	Պտղունք	Ptghunk'
27	Ջ ղ	(j)	j	Ջրաշեն	Jrashen
28	Ռ ռ	(r)	rr	Բերքառատ	Berkarrat
29	Ս ս	(s)	s	Սոթք	Sot'k'
30	Վ վ	(v)	v	Վահան	Vahan
31	Տ տ	(t)	t	Տրետուք	Tretuk'
32	Բ բ	(r)	r	Քարաձոր	K'aradzor
33	Յ գ	(ts)	ts	Վայոց ձոր	Vayots Dzor
34	Ու ու	(u)	u	Ուշի	Ushi
35	Փ փ	p	p'	Փարաքար	P'arak'ar
36	Ք ք	k	k'	Քաղցրաշեն	K'aghtsrashen
37	ԵՎ և	(ev, yev)	yev	Սևաբերդ	Sevaberd
38	Օ օ	(o)	o	Օձուն	Odzun
39	Ֆ ֆ	(f)	f	Ֆիոլետովո	Fioletovo

Note to romanization in Column 4. Where two romanization equivalents are indicated, the first is to be used word-initially.

**Notes from the Regulation** (*numbers refer to the articles in the Regulation*).

(27) Armenian names with more than one component are written separately also in English, without hyphens: Նոր Արտագերս – Nor Artagers, Փոքր Վեդի – Pokr Vedi.

(28) If the Armenian name contains a generic term, this is written with a capital letter in English: Նոր ուղի – Nor Ughi, Վայոց ձոր – Vayots Dzor.

(29) Names written with hyphens in Armenian are written without hyphens in English: Սայաթ -Նովա – Sayat Nova, Արփա-Սևան – Arpa Sevan.

(30) In composite names the distinguishing appellatives are not translated: Վերին Ամանոս – Verin Amanos, Նոր Եդեսիա – Nor Yedesia, Մեծ Մեպասար – Mets Sepasar.

(31) If the name is composed of a syntactic phrase meaning 'near' or 'by', it is translated: Առողջարանին կից – by/near/attached to Health Resort, Արջուտ կայարանին կից – near/by Arjut station.

(32) Features named after persons are translated into English using the word „after“: Յակով Ջարոբյանի անվան Արփա-Սևան ջրատար թունել – Arpa Sevan Tunnel after Yakov Zarobyan.

(33) The word աղբյուր 'source' is not translated, e.g. Lusakhpyur, Bazmakhpyur.

(34) The names of monasteries and churches may be translated, using capital letters, e.g. Saint Sargis or St. Sargis, Saint Gayaneh or St. Gayaneh.