

# International Symposium on Geographical Names



**GeoNames 2008**



## Geographical Names as Part of the Cultural Heritage

Vienna, 19-21 May 2008



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### Organized by

Ungegn Dutch and German Speaking Division (DGSD)  
Austrian Board on Geographical Names (AKO)  
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Urban and Regional Research  
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names

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## Theme

At the 9th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 21-30 August 2007, geographical names as a part of the cultural heritage evolved as one of the major topics. Referring to Resolution VIII/9 (“Geographical names as cultural heritage”) many papers were addressing it. In addition, Ms. H el ene-Marie Gosselin, Unesco Representative to the United Nations and Director of the Unesco New York Office, presented in her keynote speech the Unesco Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. This Convention was adopted in 2003 and entered into force on 20 April 2006. It points at geographical names as an important element of linguistic heritage and traditions. Since geographical names are only implicitly covered by this Convention, it was found advantageous for various protection measures as well as for national and international standardization of geographical names in general to have geographical names also explicitly mentioned.

Since UN conferences, due to their comprehensive tasks and strict schedule leave little space for more profound scientific discussions on a specific topic, the Dutch and German Speaking Division (DGSD) – continuing its tradition of GeoNames symposia – decided to organize this symposium offering the opportunity to discuss this very topic during two days (19 and 20 May). A one-day excursion (21 May) around Lake Neusiedl southeast of Vienna under the title “Multicultural variety around a lake” will provide some insight into the practice of multicultural situations in Austria and Hungary. Meetings of the Ungegn Working Groups on Pronunciation and Toponymic Terminology on 22<sup>nd</sup> May complement this event.

## Venues (see map)

### 19th and 20th May 2008

Austrian Academy of Sciences [ sterreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften]  
Theatersaal  
Sonnenfelsgasse 19  
1010 Wien

### 21st May 2008 (meeting point for the excursion)

Dr.-Karl-Lueger-Platz  
1010 Wien  
(in front of Caf  Pr ckel)

### 22nd May 2008 (Ungegn Working Group meetings)

Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Seminarraum  
Wohllebengasse 12-14  
1040 Wien

### Book exhibition during the symposium

Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Theatersaal  
Sonnenfelsgasse 19  
1010 Wien  
(At the entrance to the conference room)

## Programme

### Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2008 (Opening, Sessions 1 + 2)

#### 08.00-09.00 Registration

#### 09.00-09.30 Opening

Peter JORDAN, Austria (Organizer)  
Helen KERFOOT, Canada (Ungegn Chair)  
Hans MARTE, Austria (President, Austrian Unesco Commission)  
Heinz FASSMANN, Austria (Director, Institute of Urban and Regional Research)  
Ingeborg GEYER, Austria (Director, Institute of Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names)

#### 09.30-10.00 Opening speech

Helen KERFOOT, Canada: Geonames and cultural heritage: background comments from UNCSGN/Ungegn materials

#### 10.00-16.00 Session 1: Safeguarding geographical names as part of the cultural heritage by national standardization

(Chair: Isolde HAUSNER, Austria)

10.00-10.20 Mbongiseni Trueman KUBHEKA, South Africa: The South African Geographical Names Database as a tool to record standardization of geographical names and to reflect multiculturalism and multilingualism

10.20-10.40 J rn SIEVERS, Germany: Representation and documentation of multilingual geographical names in Germany

10.40-11.00 D nall MAC GIOLLA EASPAIG, Ireland: Ireland’s heritage of geographical names

#### 11.00-11.30 Coffee break and registration (continued)

11.30-11.50 Vita STRAUTNIECE, Latvia: The geographical names heritage of Latvia: problems and solutions of safeguarding

11.50-12.10 Sirkka PAIKKALA, Finland: Places, names and stories – a pilot project on geographical names in Finland

12.10-12.30 Discussion

12.30-14.00 Lunch break (large choice of restaurants in the surroundings)

14.00-14.20 Leif NILSSON, Staffan NYSTRÖM, Annette TORENSJÖ, Sweden: Swedish place name legislation and its emphasis on the preservation of geographical names as a part of the nation's cultural heritage

14.20-14.40 Maya VLAHOVA-ANGELOVA, Bulgaria: Standardization of proper names in Bulgaria

14.40-15.00 Menelaos N.CHRISTADOULOU, Cyprus: Safeguarding geographical names as part of the cultural heritage

15.00-15.20 Elka JAČEVA-ULČAR, FYRO Macedonia: Geographical names of FYRO Macedonia as part of its cultural heritage

15.20-15.40 Hubert BERGMANN, Austria: Austria's multiethnic heritage as reflected by geographical names

15.40-16.00 Discussion

### ***16.00-16.30 Coffee break***

### **16.30-17.30 Session 2: Geographical names as keys to cultural and settlement history**

(Chair: Jörn SIEVERS, Germany)

16.30-16.40 Gerhard RAMPL, Austria: Mountain and pasture names of East Tyrol as an example of cultural heritage

16.40-17.00 Peter SOUSTAL, Austria: Place names of a Byzantine province in the Balkan peninsula. Case study Chalkidiki

17.00-17.20 Mihailo POPOVIĆ, Austria: Continuity and change of Byzantine and Old Slavonic toponyms in the valley of the river Strumica (FYROM)

17.20-17.30 Discussion

### ***Evening: 20.00***

Invitation for paper presenters and session chairs to a typical Viennese wine restaurant sponsored by the Town Hall of Vienna and the Institute of Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names (Waldgrill Cobenzl, Am Cobenzl 96, 1190 Wien, accessible by public transport: metro line U4 from Schwedenplatz to Heiligenstadt, bus 38A to the final station (Cobenzl).

### **Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008 (Sessions 3 – 6, Closing)**

### **09.00-14.20 Session 3: Geographical names in minority and indigenous languages and dialects**

(Chair: Dónall MAC GIOLLA EASPAIG, Ireland)

09.00-09.20 William H. WATT, Australia: Cultural aspects of place names with special regard to names in indigenous, minority and regional languages

09.20-09.40 Ferjan ORMELING, Netherlands: Frisification of the map: democratizing public administration

09.40-10.00 Lisa Monica ASLAKSEN, Norway: Saami place names in Norway

### ***10.00-10.30 Coffee break***

10.30-10.50 Karina VUOLAB-LOHI, Finland: Saami geographical names in Finland

10.50-11.10 Zane CEKULA, Latvia: Geographical names of Latgale as part of the cultural heritage

11.10-11.30 Béla POKOLY, Gábor MIKESY, Hungary: Geographical names of multi-ethnic areas in western Hungary

11.30-12.00 Discussion

### ***12.00-13.30 Lunch break (large choice of restaurants in the surroundings)***

13.30-13.50 Remus CREȚAN, Romania: Minority names as reflected in the oiconyms of Timiș County

13.50-14.10 Hans Rudolf MÖSCHING, Switzerland: Back to the roots. Safeguarding non-standardized names in Switzerland

14.10-14.20 Discussion

### **14.20-16.30 Session 4: Place names as a means of politics**

(Chair: Ferjan ORMELING, Netherlands)

14.20-14.40 Roman STANI-FERTL, Austria: Place names changes – an attempt of classification

14.40-15.00 Pavlo HRYTSENKO, Rostyslav SOSSA, Nina SYVAK, Ukraine: Preservation of geographical names in Ukraine

15.00-15.20 Bobomurod MAKHSUDOV, Uzbekistan: The influence of political changes on place names

### 15.20-15.40 Coffee break

15.40-16.00 András DUTKÓ, Hungary: Changes of Hungarian place names in a political context

16.00-16.20 Drago KLADNIK, Primož PIPAN, Slovenia: The Bay of Piran (*Piranski zaliv*). An example of political controversy in geographical names as an expression of cultural relations

16.20-16.30 Discussion

### 16.30-17.30 Session 5: Geographical names as ingredients of space-related identity

(Chair: Staffan NYSTRÖM, Sweden)

16.30-16.50 Peter JORDAN, Austria: Place names as ingredients of space-related identity

16.50-17.10 Botolv HELLELAND, Norway: Place names as a means of landscape identity

17.10-17.30 Dunja BROZOVIĆ-RONČEVIĆ, Croatia: Croatian place names as reflection of regional and national heritage and identity

### 17.30-18.00 Session 6: Techniques of recording and handling names in danger or getting out of use

(Chair: Staffan NYSTRÖM, Sweden)

17.30-17.50 Eszter SIMONNÉ-DOBÓVÁRI, Géza Botond SIMON, Austria: Interactive web application for the spelling of geographical names. An educational tool for students (in Hungarian and German)

17.50-18.00 Discussion

### 18.00-18.30 Closing

**Panel:** Helen KERFOOT (Ungegn Chair), Ferjan ORMELING (Ungegn Vice Chair), Peter JORDAN (DGSD Chair), representatives of the other DGSD countries present: Mbongiseni Trueman KUBHEKA (South Africa), Pier-Giorgio ZACCHEDDU (Germany), Hans Rudolf MÖSCHING (Switzerland)

### Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 (Excursion)

Guided bus excursion under the title “Multicultural variety around a lake” around Lake Neusiedl [Neusiedler See/ Fertő] southeast of Vienna.

Special registration necessary. Registration completed (no more places available).

Route (places to be visited in bold letters): Vienna [Wien] – **Oslip/Uzlop** – **Rust** – **Austrian-Hungarian border** (foot walk) – Fertőrákos/Kroisbach – **Sopron/Ödenburg** (tour through historical downtown) Balf/Wolfs – **Fertőd** (visit to the Eszterházy castle) – Hungarian-Austrian border – Pamhagen – Apetlon – Illmitz (National park Neusiedler See/Fertő) – Podersdorf – Vienna.

Common lunch in Sopron/Ödenburg (sponsored by the Institute of Lexicography of Austrian Dialects and Names)

No special clothing requirements. Umbrella recommended

Guides: Koloman BRENNER (Hungary), Peter JORDAN (Austria)

Departure: 08.00 Dr.-Karl-Lueger-Platz, in front of Café Prückel (see map)

Return expected for ca. 19.00.



### Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 (Ungegn working group meetings)

09.00-12.00 Meeting, Ungegn Working Group on Pronunciation

**12.00-13.30 Lunch break (large choice of restaurants in the surroundings)**

13.30-16.00 Meeting, Ungegn Working Group on Toponymic Terminology