



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 East Central and South-East Europe
Division in Bratislava, 2019

Maciej Zych

National names authorities

Commission on Names of Localities and Physiographical Objects (Komisja Nazw Miejscowości i Obiektów Fizjograficznych – KNMiOF)

- established in 1934
- affiliated to the Minister of the Interior and Administration
- establishes names used within Poland's boundaries

After receiving the opinion of the Commission the Minister publishes names' changes in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland.

National names authorities

Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland (Komisja Standaryzacji Nazw Geograficznych poza Granicami Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej – KSNG)

- established in 1951
- affiliated at the Surveyor General of Poland
- responsible for:
 - ✓ standardizing Polish geographical names of the world
 - ✓ establishing the principles of romanization from languages which use non-Roman writing systems
 - ✓ representing Poland on UNGEGN forum
 - ✓ participation in international conferences and meetings devoted to geographical names

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 new 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 (changes of type can be also result of changes of boundaries of cities and towns). Since 2019 the following changes were made:

| | New names | Changed names | | | | Abolished names |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
| | | Total | Name only | Name and the type | Type only | |
| 2020 | 4 | 38 | 13 | – | 25 | 3 |
| 2021 | 1 | 44 | 5 | 1 | 38 | 37 |
| 2022 | 3 | 60 | 16 | – | 44 | 101 |
| Total | 8 | 142 | 34 | 1 | 107 | 141 |

Official names

Changes of names of administrative units in 2021:

- 1 powiat (2nd level administrative unit)
- 1 gmina (3rd level administrative unit)



Multilingual areas

National minorities:

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

Ethnic minorities:

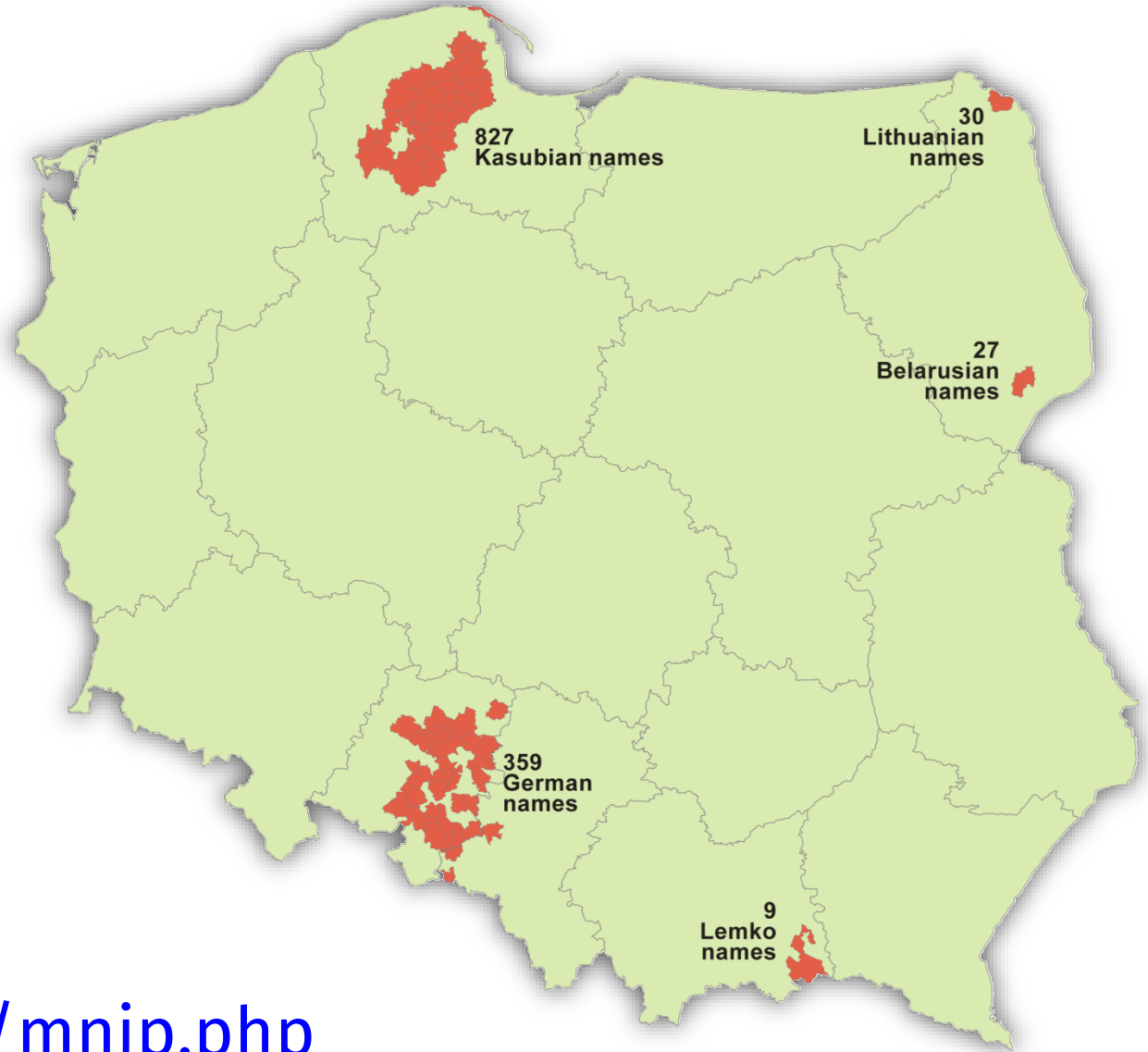
- Karait
- Lemko (Rusyn)
- Roma
- Tartar

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.



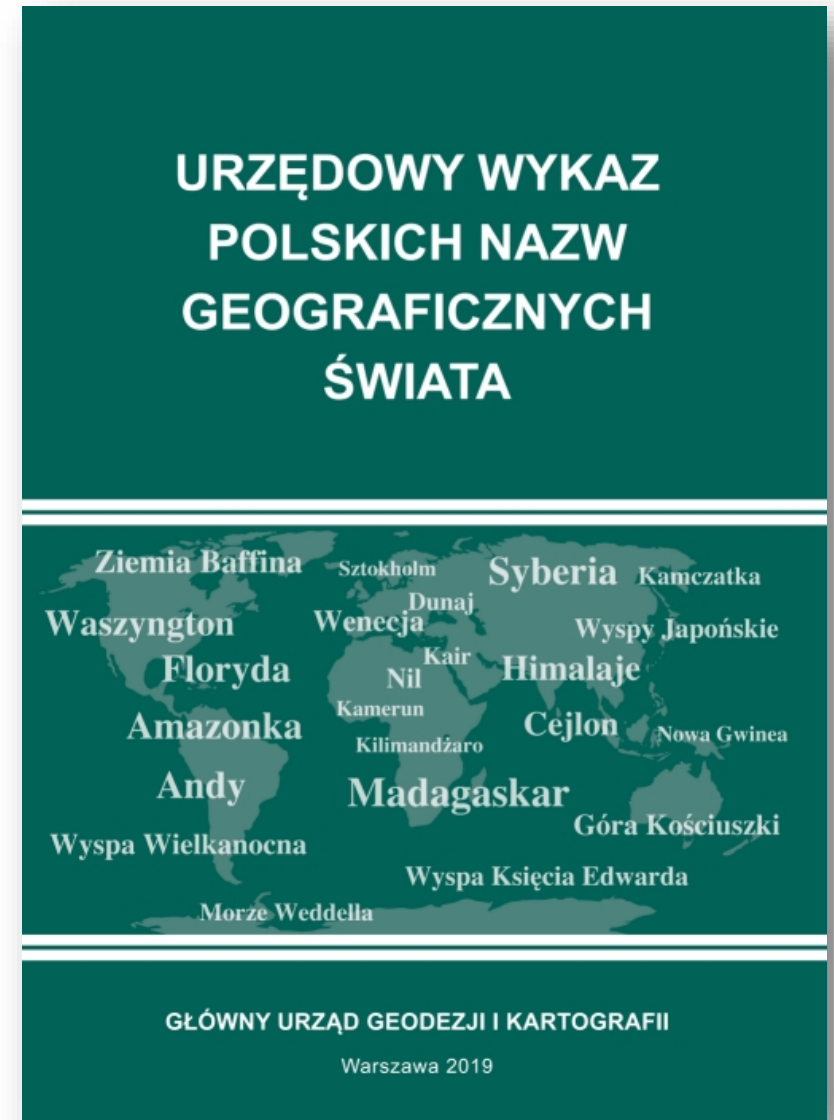
List of minority names:

<http://ksng.gugik.gov.pl/english/mnip.php>

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



http://ksng.gugik.gov.pl/english/wpngs_en.php

Exonyms

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

Since the publication of the 2nd edition of the list in 2019 the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland:

- standardized 123 Polish exonyms
- changed 110 exonyms
- delisted 294 exonyms

ETIOPIA

Nazwy dodane:

Region Ludów Etiopii Południowo-Wschodniej; YeDebub Mi‘irab Ītyop’ya Hizboch (*trl.*), Je-Debub Myyrab Itjopja Hyzbocz (*trb.*); *ofic.* YeDebub Mi‘irab Ītyop’ya Hizboch Kilil (*trl.*), Je-Debub Myyrab Itjopja Hyzbocz Kylyl (*trb.*); 7°00'N, 35°50'E – dla jednostki administracyjnej [118]

Sidama; Sīdama (*trl.*), Sidama (*trb.*); *ofic.* YeSīdama Kilil (*trl.*), Je-Sidama Kylyl (*trb.*); 6°45'N, 38°25'E – dla jednostki administracyjnej [114]

FRANCJA

Nazwy dodane:

Rezerwat Biosfery Mozeli Południowej; Réserve de Biosphère de Moselle Sud; 48°46'N, 6°52'E – dla obszaru chronionego [118]

Exonyms

The Commission also works on extension the list.

In 2020 works on collection of the original non-Latin names were finished.

In 2019-2022 works on collection of genitives, locatives and adjectives from the Polish exonyms were realized.

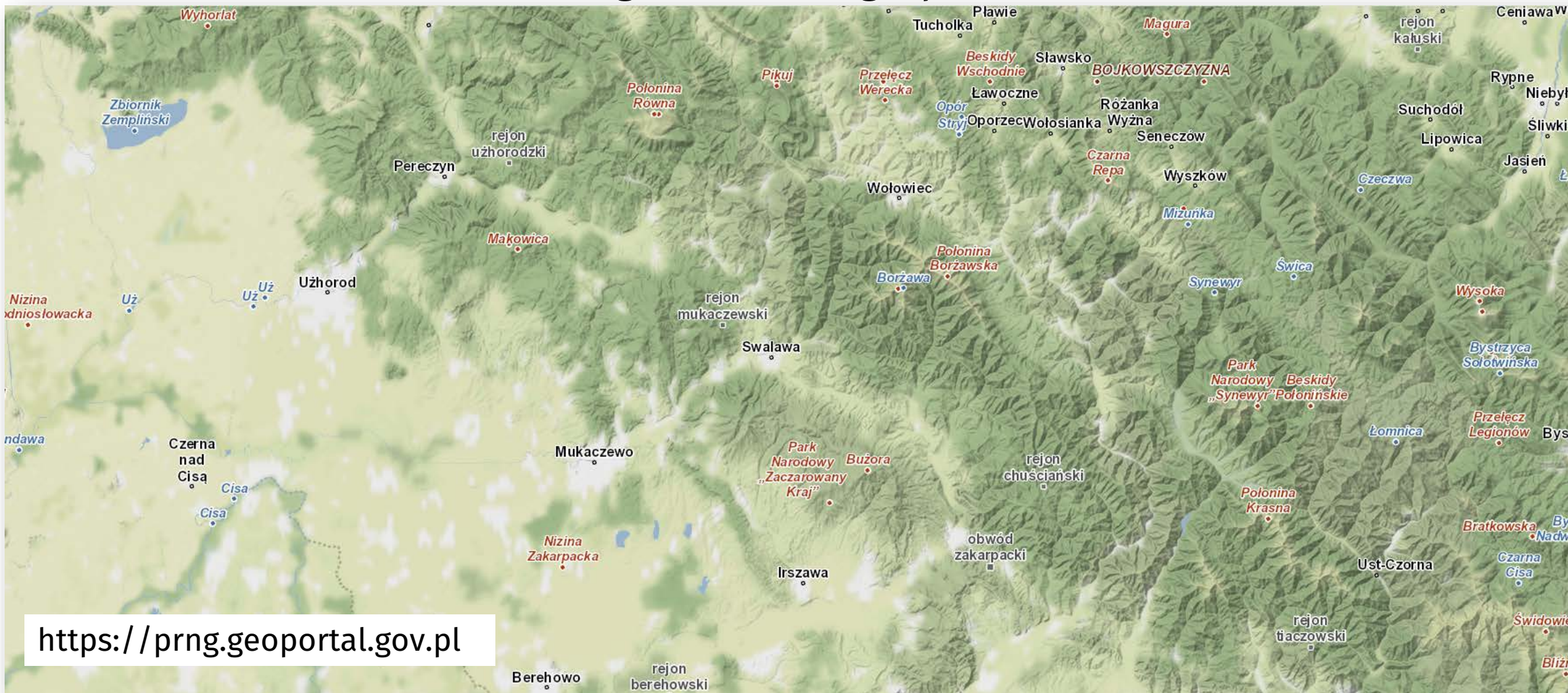
Czandigarh, *ndm. albo D. Czandigarhu, Mc. Czandigarhu, przym. czandigarski; ang. Chandigarh; hindi चंडीगढ़ – Camḍigarḥ (trl.), Ćandigarh (trb.); pendź. चंडीगढ़ – Camḍigarḥ (trl.), Ćandigarh (trb.); 30°43'N, 76°47'E*

Dadra, Nagarhaveli, Daman i Diu, *D. Dadry, Nagarhaveli, Damanu i Diu, Mc. Dadrze, Nagarhaveli, Damanie i Diu; ang. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu; hindi दाद्रा और नागर हवेली तथा दमण और दीव – Dādrā aur Nāgar Havelī tathā Damaṇ aur Dīv (trl.), Dadra aur Nagar Haweli tatha Daman aur Diw (trb.); gudźarati દાદરા અને નગર હવેલી અને દમણ અને દીવ – Dādrā ane Nagar Havelī ane Damaṇ ane Dīv (trl.), Dadra ane Nagar Haweli ane Daman ane Diw (trb.); 20°12'N, 73°01'E oraz 20°25'N, 72°51'E oraz 20°43'N, 70°55'E*

Delhi, *ndm., przym. delhijski; ofic. Terytorium Stołeczne Delhi, D. Terytorium Stołecznego Delhi, Mc. Terytorium Stołecznym Delhi; ang. Delhi; ofic. National Capital Territory of Delhi; hindi दिल्ली – Dillī (trl.), Dilli (trb.); ofic. राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली – Rāṣṭrīy Rājadhānī Kṣetr Dillī (trl.), Rasztrij| Radźdhani Kszetr Dilli (trb.); pendź. दिल्ली – Dillī (trl.), Dilli (trb.); ofic. राष्ट्रिय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली – Rāṣṭrī Rājadhānī Khetr Dillī (trl.), Raṣtri Radźdhani Khetr Dilli (trb.); urdu دِلّی – Dillī (trl.), Dilli (trb.); ofic. قومی دار الحکومتی عملداری دلی – Qaumī Dār-ul Ḥukūmatī ‘Amaldārī Dillī (trl.), Kaumi Darul Hukumati Amaldari Dilli (trb.); 28°37'N, 77°08'E*

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>

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 annex will contain names for around 1700 buildings and other urban objects.

Place

plac Karola; Karlovo náměstí; $50^{\circ}04'33''N$, $14^{\circ}25'12''E$ [Praga]

plac Waclawa; Václavské náměstí; $50^{\circ}04'56''N$, $14^{\circ}25'35''E$ [Praga]

Rynek Staromiejski; Staroměstské náměstí; $50^{\circ}05'15''N$, $14^{\circ}25'16''E$ [Praga]

Mosty

most Karola; Karlův most; $50^{\circ}05'11,5''N$, $14^{\circ}24'41''E$ [Praga]

Świątynie, klasztory, miejsca kultu

kaplica Betlejemska; Betlémská kaple; $50^{\circ}05'03,7''N$, $14^{\circ}25'03''E$ [Praga]

katedra Boskiego Zbawiciela; Katedrála Božského Spasitele; $49^{\circ}50'09''N$, $18^{\circ}17'20,5''E$ [Ostrawa]

katedra Świętego Waclawa; Katedrála svatého Václava; $49^{\circ}35'52''N$, $17^{\circ}15'46''E$ [Ołomuniec]

katedra Świętego Wita; ofic. **katedra Świętych Wita, Waclawa i Wojciecha**; chrám svatého Vít; ofic. Katedrála svatého Vít, Václava a Vojtěcha; $50^{\circ}05'27''N$, $14^{\circ}24'02''E$ [Praga]

English exonyms

List of English names of major geographical features situated in the territory of the Republic of Poland.

- published in 2021
- the list of recommended English names for the most important geographical features from Poland
- includes names of 126 features.
- http://ksng.gugik.gov.pl/pliki/publikacje/english_names.pdf

Kotlina Sandomierska – (the)¹ Sandomierz Basin
Nizina Mazowiecka – (the)¹ Mazovian Lowland
Nizina Podlaska – (the)¹ Podlasie Lowland
Nizina Polska – (the)¹ Polish Lowland
Nizina Śląska – (the)¹ Silesian Lowland
Nizina Wielkopolska – (the)¹ Greater Poland Lowland
Pogórze Karpackie – (the)¹ Carpathian Foothills
Pogórze Przemyskie – (the)¹ Przemyśl Foothills
Pojezierze Mazurskie – (the)¹ Masurian Lakeland
Pojezierze Pomorskie – (the)¹ Pomeranian Lakeland
Pojezierze Suwalskie – (the)¹ Suwałki Lakeland
Pojezierze Wielkopolskie – (the)¹ Greater Poland Lakeland
Przedgórze Sudeckie – (the)¹ Sudety Foreland
Roztocze – (the)¹ Roztocze (Hills)³
Wyżyna Lubelska – (the)¹ Lublin Upland
Wyżyna Małopolska – (the)¹ Lesser Poland Upland
Wyżyna Śląska – (the)¹ Silesian Upland

Toponymic data files

The National Register of Geographical Names – PRNG (maintained by the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography) holds approximately 256,000 names (as on 29th March 2021):

- 124,793 names of localities and its parts
- 131,185 names of physiographical objects:
 - 22,874 names of water objects
 - 33,294 names of land shaping objects
 - 75,017 names of other objects

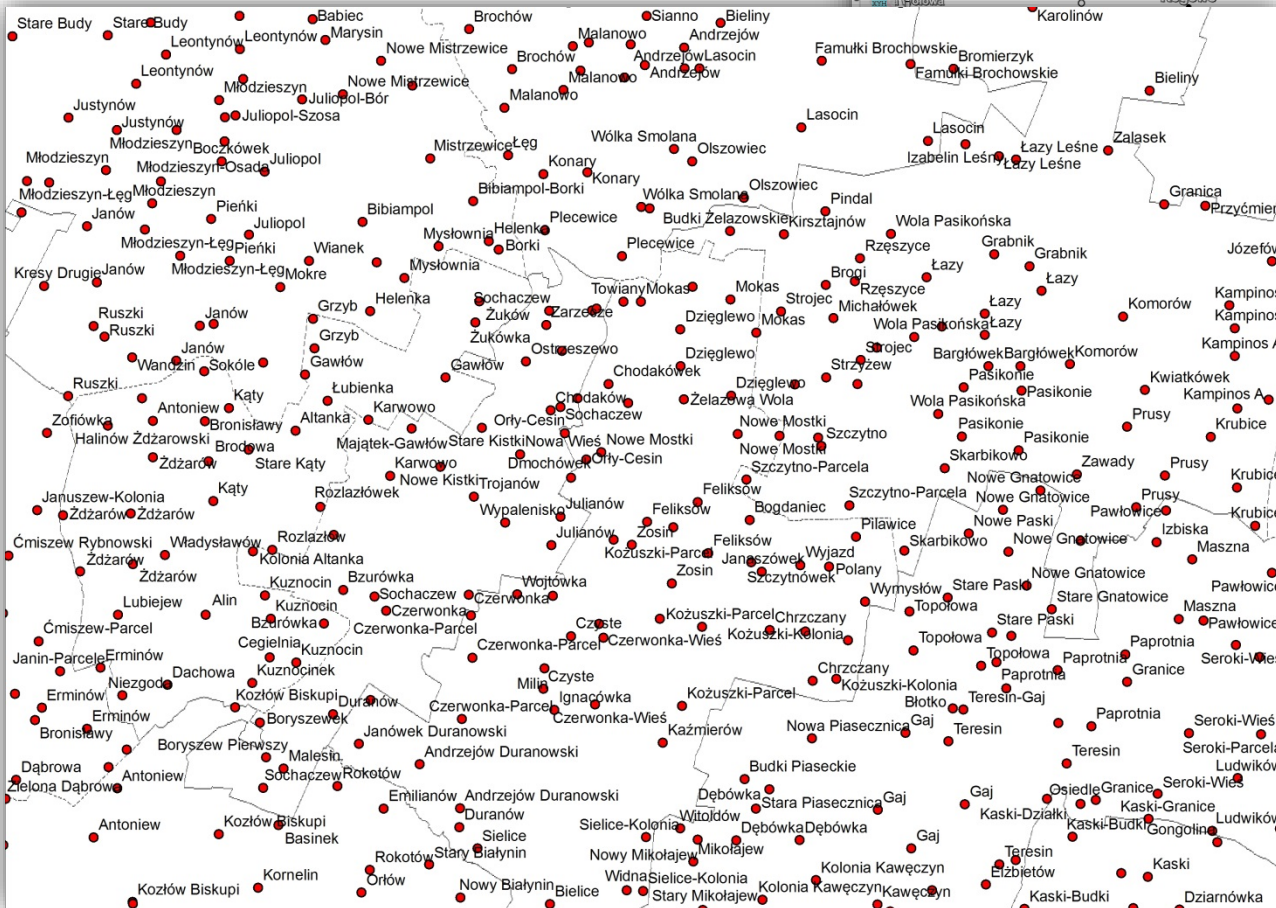
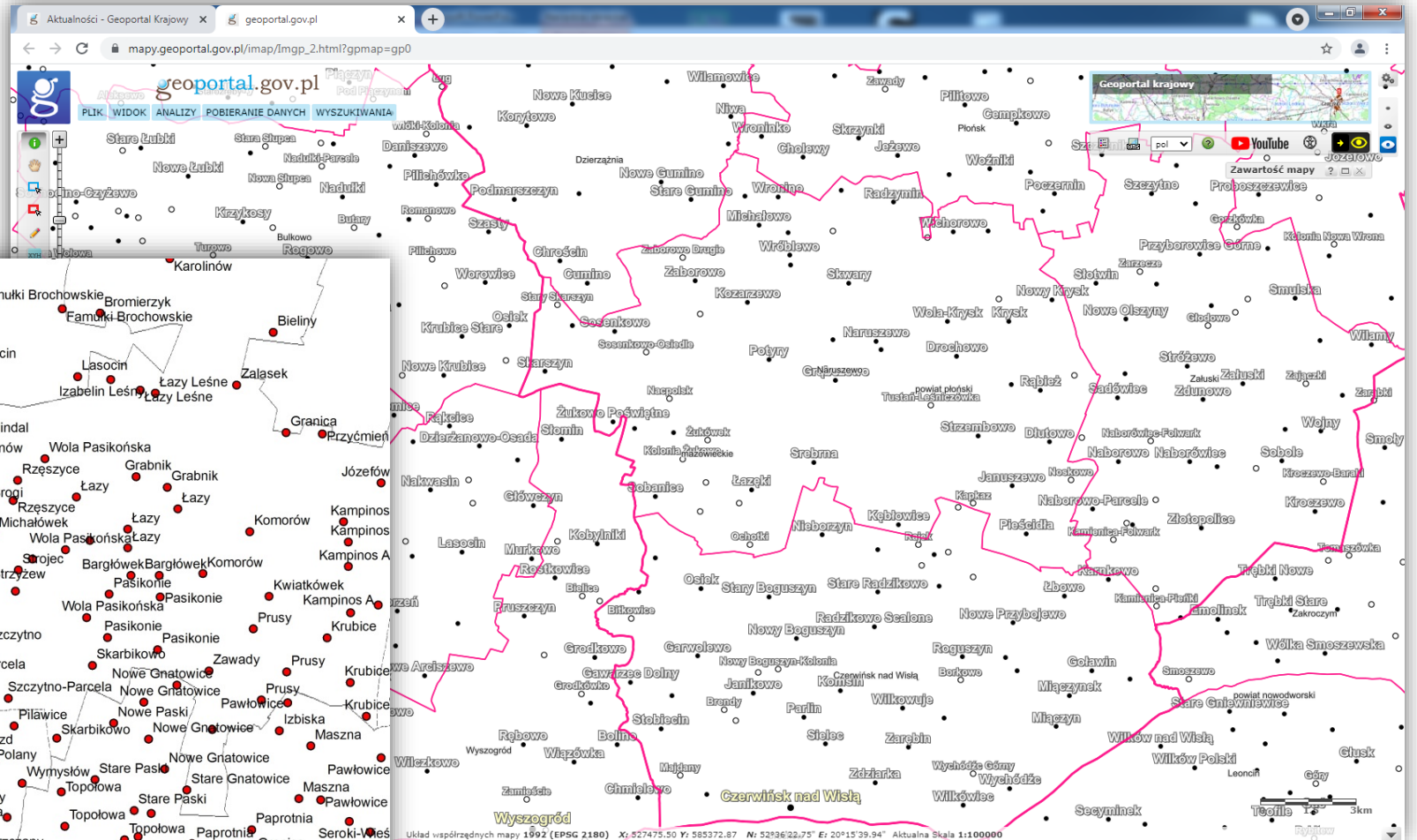
Toponymic data files

In the Register the following types of names are collected:

- official names (i.e. names published by a regulation of the Minister, 137,905 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, 26,573 names)
- unstandardized names (i.e. other names listed on topographic maps or other sources, 91,500 names)
- minority names (1,252 names)

Toponymic data files

shapefile (ArcGIS)



Country names

Official list of names of countries and non-self-governing territories
(6th edition)

- prepared by the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names Outside the Republic of Poland
- published in the end of 2021
- contains 195 countries recognized by Poland and 69 non-self-governing territories
- <http://ksng.gugik.gov.pl/english/wykaz.php>



Romanization

To the date the Commission has adopted romanization rules for 38 languages.

Since 2012 works are carried out to verify the previously adopted romanization rules together with the elaboration of extended romanization tables.

In the period 2019–2022 romanization rules for Burmese (Myanmar) and Hindi were verified and extended.

Romanization rules for Mongolian in Mongolian script were adopted – recommended are: official Chinese romanization scheme based on Pinyin, scientific transliteration of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the University of Warsaw (modification of the Vladimircov-Mostaert system) and Polish phonetic transcription.

<http://ksng.gugik.gov.pl/latynizacja.php>

International co-operation

Members of the Commission participated in:

- 29 April – 3 May, 2019 (New York, United States): 1st Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
- 15 July, 2019 (Tokyo, Japan): Joint International Geographical Union/International Cartographic Association Commission on Toponymy workshop “Role and structure of national place-name boards”
- 16 July, 2019 (Tokyo, Japan): toponymic sessions of the Joint International Geographical Union/International Cartographic Association Commission on Toponymy during the 29th International Cartographic Conference of the International Cartographic Association
- 24-26 September, 2019 (Rīga, Latvia): 20th Meeting of the Baltic Division
- 5-9 November, 2019 (Vienna, Austria): GeoNames19 Symposium “Place names and migration”

International co-operation

Members of the Commission participated in:

- 3-7 May, 2021 (New York, on-line): 2nd Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names
- 22-27 September (Kraków, on-line): 27th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences
- 23-24 September, 2021 (Tallinn, on-line): 21st Meeting of the Baltic Division,
- 9 November, 2021 (on-line): 25th Meeting of the East Central and South-East Europe Division
- 19 November, 2021 (on-line): 1st Meeting of UNGEGN Bureau and Division Chairs
- 17 December, 2021 (Florence, Italy): toponymic sessions of the Joint International Geographical Union/International Cartographic Association Commission on Toponymy during the 30th International Cartographic Conference of the International Cartographic Association

International co-operation

Poland is the chair-country of the UNGEGN Baltic Division for the period 2021-2025.

Joint statement by UNGEGN experts from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland

in response to the aggression against Ukraine

On Thursday, 24th of February 2022, the Russian Federation launched an unprecedented invasion of Ukraine. Such unjustified and unprovoked aggression is a clear violation of international law. The attacks on civilian targets carried out by Russian troops, resulting in numerous deaths among the Ukrainian population, are intolerable and may be considered a war crime. This aggression is not only against Ukraine but against the whole free world.

The experts of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, four member states of the Baltic Division of the UNGEGN, strongly condemn the extremely dangerous, wholly incomprehensible and completely unfounded aggression by the Russian Federation against independent Ukraine. The experts of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland have decided to cease all contact with representatives of the Russian Federation within the Baltic Division and UNGEGN, and call on all experts from all democratic states to do the same.

We express our wholehearted support for and solidarity with all Ukrainians and we wish that peace will soon return to their homeland.

Tallinn – Rīga – Vilnius – Warszawa, 21st March 2022



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*