

**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General
14 February 2025

Original: English

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

New York, 28 April–2 May 2025

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Technical expertise: geographical names data management**Open Gazetteer for Europe: progress and
further development****Summary****

Open Gazetteer is a pan-European gazetteer created under the auspices of EuroGeographics (the association of European national mapping and cadastral agencies) and the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy of Germany. The gazetteer is derived from data sets produced by EuroGeographics and its members. It contains the official toponyms of all participating European countries and currently encompasses more than 60 languages.

The project to further develop Open Gazetteer comprises two phases.

In the first phase (2021–2023), Open Gazetteer was expanded to include common exonyms in the languages of the gazetteer. In the second phase (2024–2026), the content has been and will continue to be further expanded to include minority toponyms. Since many minority place names are not recorded in official registers, both exonyms and endonyms in the relevant languages will be added. All data sets are in compliance with Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe specifications and the relevant decisions of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Open Gazetteer is publicly available under an open data licence, making it freely accessible.

* [GEGN.2/2025/1](#).

** The full report was prepared by Victoria Persson (EuroGeographics), Roman Stani-Fertl (Austria) and Pier-Giorgio Zaccheddu, Regine Elling, Jörgen Spradau and Tim Trautmann (Germany), and submitted by Germany. The report will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2025/83/CRP.83.

