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# EXONYMS IN SPANISH

## Criteria and usage in cartography

Marga Azcárate Luxán  
Bárbara Alonso Tagle



GOBIERNO  
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO  
DE TRANSPORTES, MOVILIDAD  
Y AGENDA URBANA

INSTITUTO  
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**Authors**

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Marga Azcárate Luxán

Bárbara Alonso Tagle

**Design and layout**

Laura Carrasco Pérez

**Contributors**

Diego Gómez Sánchez

Irene Calvo Alonso

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IGN-CNIG

C/ General Ibáñez de Ibero, 3

28003 MADRID

[ign.es](http://ign.es) / [cnig.es](http://cnig.es)

[consulta@cnig.es](mailto:consulta@cnig.es)

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## Summary

This publication seeks to reflect the existing debates, trends and usage criteria applicable to Spanish exonyms, particularly in regard to their use in cartography. In light of the statements and views on exonyms published by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN, Working Group on Exonyms), we examine the particular characteristics of exonyms in Spanish.

Firstly, we outline the internationally agreed definitions that differentiate endonyms (the name of a geographical feature in a language used in the area where it is located) from exonyms (a name which, unlike the endonym, is in a language not used in the place where the geographical feature is located), considering their specificities and fundamental traits, which have been the subject of numerous reports and clarifications.

Subsequently, we look at the levels of exonym usage in different contexts, such as the use of Spanish toponyms in bilingual regions, and, as issues fundamental to the treatment of exonyms, the problems that can arise from the use of phonetic transcription or transliteration to romanise names that use non-Latin alphabets.

The second part of the publication examines the most commonly observed features in exonym formations (morphological adaptations, orthographic conversion and suffixation) and looks at the romanisation of Greek toponyms.

The current usage of exonyms is highlighted by tracing their evolution and describing the various levels of standardisation applied by different geographical entities.

The last section looks at how foreign toponyms are handled in cartography, detailing the criteria applied by different types of geographical entities: the basic fields to be included in databases in order to subsequently automate labelling, the use of generic terms, whether preference is given to the endonym or exonym, hybrid toponyms and other aspects of the labelling process.



# INDEX

<b>PROLOGUE</b>	<a href="#">7</a>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<a href="#">8</a>
<b>PART 1 KEY ASPECTS OF EXONYMS AND ENDONYMS</b>	<a href="#">10</a>
1 Definition of exonyms and endonyms	<a href="#">10</a>
2 Why are we moving away from exonyms? Different levels of use	<a href="#">13</a>
3 Nomenclature in Spanish (or 'Castilian') language in Spanish bilingual regions	<a href="#">17</a>
4 Phonetic transcription	<a href="#">18</a>
5 Transliteration	<a href="#">19</a>
<b>PART 2 FEATURES OF EXONYMS IN SPANISH</b>	<a href="#">21</a>
1 Orthographic conversion of specific phonemes from Latin alphabets into Spanish	<a href="#">21</a>
2 Morphological adaptation	<a href="#">22</a>
3 Changing the ending -burg to -burgo	<a href="#">22</a>
4 Changing the ending -land to -landia and -landa	<a href="#">22</a>
5 Adding a suffix -ado	<a href="#">23</a>
6 Peculiarities of Greek exonyms	<a href="#">23</a>
<b>PART 3 EVOLUTION AND USE OF EXONYMS IN SPANISH</b>	<a href="#">27</a>
1 Jurisdiction with regard to the standardisation of exonyms in Spanish	<a href="#">27</a>
2 Spanish exonyms for countries	<a href="#">28</a>
2.1 Differences in the names of countries and capitals used in the National Atlas of Spain (ANE) and those used by other official bodies	<a href="#">37</a>
2.2 Gender of countries and cities	<a href="#">42</a>
2.3 Article usage in the names of countries and cities	<a href="#">42</a>
3 Spanish exonyms for country capitals	<a href="#">43</a>
4 Spanish exonyms for cities	<a href="#">46</a>
5 Spanish exonyms for regions	<a href="#">50</a>
5.1 European regions	<a href="#">51</a>
5.2 Regions of other continents	<a href="#">56</a>
6 Spanish exonyms for rivers	<a href="#">56</a>
7 Spanish exonyms for features of the relief	<a href="#">59</a>
7.1 Exonyms for the relief in Europe	<a href="#">59</a>
7.2 Exonyms for the relief in other continents	<a href="#">60</a>
8 Spanish exonyms for islands	<a href="#">61</a>
9 Spanish exonyms for coastal and maritime features	<a href="#">62</a>
<b>PART 4 CARTOGRAPHIC TREATMENT OF EXONYMS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF GEOGRAPHICAL ENTITY</b>	<a href="#">64</a>
1 Foreign toponymy in cartographic databases	<a href="#">64</a>
2 General aspects of foreign toponymy usage	<a href="#">67</a>
2.1 Generic and specific terms	<a href="#">67</a>
2.2 Agglutination	<a href="#">68</a>
2.3 Nexuses between generic and specific terms	<a href="#">69</a>
3 Administrative bodies	<a href="#">69</a>
3.1 Labelling of capitals and cities	<a href="#">69</a>
3.2 Labelling of countries	<a href="#">71</a>
4 Orography and landscape	<a href="#">71</a>
4.1 Labelling of features of the relief	<a href="#">71</a>
4.2 Labelling of peaks	<a href="#">72</a>
4.3 Labelling of the major phytoclimatic regions	<a href="#">73</a>
5 Continental hydrography	<a href="#">74</a>
5.1 Labelling of watercourses	<a href="#">74</a>
5.2 Labelling of bodies of water	<a href="#">80</a>
6 Seas and the coast	<a href="#">82</a>
6.1 Labelling of islands	<a href="#">82</a>
6.2 Labelling of coastal features	<a href="#">83</a>
6.3 Labelling of seas and oceans	<a href="#">84</a>
6.4 Labelling of the underwater relief	<a href="#">86</a>
<b>FINAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>	<a href="#">87</a>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY CONSULTED</b>	<a href="#">89</a>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<a href="#">93</a>



# PROLOGUE

**T**he use of foreign toponymy in the thematic cartography of the National Atlas of Spain is ubiquitous, making standardisation essential. This publication responds to a need to set out and compile the decisions, research and conclusions applied to global thematic cartography and, therefore, to the Atlas.

The need to implement standardised practices in our official cartography underlines the importance of sharing the results of any modified rules or analysis of the trends and usage of exonyms in Spanish. The criteria used in the National Atlas of Spain to standardise foreign toponymy serve as a national reference and may be useful for institutions and toponymy experts in other countries. This work compiles and reproduces part of this painstaking and absorbing task, presenting decisions supported by numerous technical publications.

The recommendations included in this book are framed in the context of the projects carried out as part of the United Nations Conferences on the Standardisation of Geographical Names, especially those undertaken by the Working Group on Country Names, the Working Group on Exonyms and the Working Group on Geographical Names Data Management. A valuable contribution has also been made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, especially with regard to country names.

The National Geographic Institute, through the National Atlas of Spain, is the authority responsible for the arduous but gratifying mission of standardising and disseminating the foreign geographical names it uses in the official cartography of Spain.

It is both an honour and a privilege to preface this crucial and pioneering project on foreign toponymy, the excellent results of which can be attributed to the vast professional experience of its two authors.

*MARÍA PILAR SÁNCHEZ-ORTIZ RODRÍGUEZ*

*Head of Thematic Cartography and the National Atlas of Spain at the IGN*

# INTRODUCTION

## Did you know...

The United Nations defines standardisation as follows: *international standardisation of geographical names is that activity aiming at the maximum possible uniformity in the form of every geographical name on the earth and of topographical names on other bodies of the solar system by means of national standardisation and/or international agreement, including the achievement of equivalences between different writing systems (Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Glossary of Terms for the Standardisation of Geographical Names. United Nations. New York, 2002).*

However, the UN's objective of agreeing on one name for any given place is contradictory to the existence of multiple names for a single place in bilingual areas and to the use of exonyms. Evidently, the one-name target cannot be met in multilingual areas, and with regard to the desirability of maintaining the use of exonyms, some experts clearly advocate a reduction in their use while others believe they should be preserved as a linguistic heritage.

The use of foreign toponymy in cartography necessitates an understanding of the most relevant aspects of its treatment.

How do we know what names are available in Spanish for foreign toponymy, and do they all remain valid? When we find two coexisting forms, which one should we choose? If the names belong to non-Latin alphabets, should romanisations<sup>1</sup> that do not conform to the current standardised systems be respected, or is it preferable to always use the standardised systems?

With this in mind, referring to the appropriate sources to consult the standardised names and criteria to be applied when creating databases and lists in order to unify their usage in different contexts is highly recommended.

The United Nations Conferences on the Standardisation of Geographical Names, initiated in 1967, works to establish guidelines and lines of action with the core objective of achieving a uniform use of toponymy that facilitates worldwide communication.

The Conferences, which take place every four years, have been providing recommendations to governments with the aim of standardising geographical names at a national level, which is regarded as a fundamental precursor to international standardisation. In addition, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) was created to support and promote these efforts. The group is primarily composed of experts in linguistics and geography, who analyse the different issues related to the use of geographical names (toponymic guidelines, gazetteers, exonyms, romanisation systems, etc.);

<sup>1</sup> romanisation: the practice of converting names in other scripts into the Latin alphabet (Athina, from Αθήνα). Romanisation may be achieved through phonetic transcription or transliteration.

and the Geographical or Linguistic Divisions, which bring together experts according to linguistic groups or geographical areas.

But accomplishing this desired uniformity or consistency, i.e. ensuring the use of a single name for every place, is far from a simple task when the reality is that all languages have their own names for geographical entities located beyond the area where they are spoken. After several debates, the Conferences have now accepted that **exonyms already well-established in a language form part of its cultural heritage** and have therefore approved their use and dissemination through lists to facilitate the exchange of data (see resolutions of the United Nations Conferences on the Standardisation of Geographical Names, II/28; II/29; II/35; III/18; III/19, IV/20, V/13, VIII/4). As a result, it could be argued that using exonyms is more appropriate when the publication is intended for a particular linguistic community. (P. Woodman: *Advice on exonyms and their usage*. Peter Jordan, Paul Woodman, 2016).

Unquestionably, the use of endonyms should be promoted in the interest of achieving consistency in geographical nomenclature; but exonyms are an undisputed heritage that form part of a language's lexicon, and their standardisation will depend on their usage.

### Did you know...

The Spanish language may have more than one exonym for the same place. There are exonyms currently in use (Londres, Nueva York), obsolete exonyms that are gradually being replaced by the endonym (Champaña, referring to the Champagne region) and historical exonyms that are no longer used (Abisinia, the historical name for present-day Ethiopia).

# PART 1

## KEY ASPECTS OF EXONYMS AND ENDONYMS

### 1. Definition of exonyms and endonyms

The Working Group on Exonyms, set up in 2002, is responsible for establishing criteria for endonyms and exonyms so that all countries have guidelines as to their significance and application (web page <http://ungegn.zrc-sazu.si/Home.aspx>).

The definitions were gradually refined by the group of experts over the course of several sessions, with the following definitive definitions finally being agreed upon:

An **endonym** is the name of a geographical feature<sup>2</sup> in an official or well-established language occurring in that area where the feature is located. E.g.: *Aachen*, in German (Germany); *London*, in English (United Kingdom); *Göteborg*, in Swedish (Sweden).

An **exonym** is the name used in a specific language for a geographical feature situated outside the area where that language is spoken, and differing in its form from the name used in an official or well-established language of that area where the geographical feature is located. E.g.: *Aquisgrán* (*Aachen*); *Londres* (*London*), *Gotemburgo* (*Göteborg*). There are, therefore, exonyms in many languages, *Londres* is the Spanish exonym for *London*, but in Italian, it is *Londra*.

It is important to highlight the concept of '**official or well-established language**', as the official status is often confusing when classifying a name as an exonym. This occurs with the many historical names of colonial origin in Africa that are still in use in international contexts and even on the official websites of African countries. Names which can therefore be considered endonyms because they are the names used in well-established languages, despite having lost their official status in many cases.

To differentiate between an exonym and an endonym, it is essential both that a community with a sense of identity refers to a geographical feature as part of its space and to determine whether the names are different because of the language or their official status. (Peter Jordan: *Place names as ingredients of space-related identity*, 2012).

### Did you know...

The UN Conferences reject the creation of new names in a language of occupation, as is the case of Israel in the occupied territories of Palestine. Despite this recommendation, having no influence on the country's language policies, Arabic speakers in the occupied territories are required to use transliterated Hebrew names instead of the traditional Arabic names.

2 A topographical feature on the Earth's surface that has a recognisable identity. (P. Jordan, 2012).



Geographer Yi-Fu Tuan analyses human relationships with places and their attachment to them. He points out that the spaces around us are loaded with personal significance at different scales (house, neighbourhood, region, country, planet), forming a network characterised by differing distances and relationships. He analyses the emotional attachments between people and places as a network that envelops us with a wide range of scopes and feelings.

## Did you know...

Places acquire a unique 'personality' over time for the people who frequently pass through them. Tuan reflects on the personal map of each individual in relation to a place. He suggests that just as a raincoat has defined characteristics that are unique to its owner and go beyond its practical use – a perception that is distinct and not perceived by others – so too does a place. The senses that have developed in that space (sight, hearing, touch) are not the same for everyone; each individual will have their own personal map. The specific physical characteristics are just another part of the 'personality' felt by its inhabitants. He calls it a "sense of place", something akin to the personality or spirit of a place that only human beings can feel. He also points out that when acquiring knowledge of a place, our other senses, such as smell and touch, are just as important as sight (hearing, smell, taste and touch) (Yi-Fu Tuan, 1979).

**Hybrid toponyms, formed by a generic term in Spanish and a specific term in the local language, are not exonyms in the strictest sense of the word but can be included as exonyms in databases to differentiate them from the endonyms (*Punta Foreland*, in English *Foreland Point*). Depending on the scale and the target recipients of the map or text, their use may be more or less advisable.**

Tuan's reflections highlight the fact that place names are part of the world of feelings and, therefore, the personal perception of the speaker is a fundamental attribute in toponymy.

On another note, from a spatial point of view, an endonym does not cease to be an endonym because the geographical entity is shared with other languages. In other words, for a Spanish speaker, *Pirineos* is an endonym and refers to the mountain range as a whole, including the part that belongs to another country and another language, France, where it is obviously an exonym. (P. Woodman: *The great toponymic divide. Endonyms, exonyms and language boundaries: A clarification*, p. 75). We can also say that the exonyms for countries and major geographical features (oceans, major rivers, mountain systems, major islands) are the ones most likely to remain unchanged over time and continue to be widely used in all contexts.

According to experts in geographical names, the basic criteria for the use of exonyms can be summarised as follows:

- Respect established exonyms.
- Avoid traditional exonyms that have fallen into disuse.
- Use internationally approved romanisation systems.
- Avoid the creation of new exonyms, except when necessary. Only in exceptional cases is it necessary to use new names, along similar lines to the creation of neologisms

in response to changing usage and the need to name new realities (Paul Woodman, *Criteria for the use of exonyms*, p. 19).

## Did you know...

Names from languages that were previously in power in a place, such as Russian names in what are now Ukrainian areas, should be avoided. It is important to take this into account for variants of the Cyrillic alphabet, as the romanisation of the Ukrainian alphabet differs slightly from that of the Russian alphabet (such as the Cyrillic letter *x*, which is transliterated as *h* in Russian and *kh* in Ukrainian).

These criteria are the subject of considerable debate: which are the established exonyms, which have fallen into disuse, should the most current romanisation systems always be respected, and who should rule on the appropriateness of creating a new exonym? It is difficult to answer these questions because the use and form of exonyms often depend on the context. The media and official bodies are moving away from traditional forms more quickly than the linguistic bodies who are more concerned with preserving exonyms as a fundamental part of a language's lexicon.

The qualification of a place name as an exonym must be based on spelling and not on pronunciation. But how far does an exonym have to be transformed from an endonym to be considered as such? (Peter Päll, 2007). Often, the difference between an endonym and an exonym lies in the absence or presence of certain diacritical marks or the simplification of consonants. This is an open debate, with many experts maintaining that these minimal differences do not constitute true exonyms. Moreover, when the difference with respect to the endonym is minimal (an accent or one letter), the tendency is to eliminate these exonyms.

Another interesting question is whether or not to consider hybrid toponyms (formed by the union of a specific term in its original language and a generic term translated into the target language) as exonyms. An example of this would be *Estrecho de Long Island*, which uses the generic term translated into Spanish coupled with the specific term in its language of origin. Strictly speaking, they are not exonyms; if they were, the list of exonyms used in a language would be endless. Nevertheless, it may be useful to classify them as exonyms in cartographic databases to differentiate them from endonyms since, as we shall see later, the treatment of generic terms in cartography has specific particularities.

The motivations for creating exonyms vary, ranging from commercial, cultural and political exchange to the need to name a place for particular reasons. According to Peter Jordan, exonyms reflect the importance of a geographical entity for that community (*Towards a comprehensive view at the endonym/exonym divide*, p. 21, in Paul Woodman, ed., *The great toponymic divide*, 2012). Every geographical entity that, for one reason or another (political, touristic, social, cultural), has needed to be referred to in a Spanish language context has given rise to the creation of an exonym. All languages have toponyms in their vocabulary that respond to the need to name places located in areas where other languages are spoken. Therefore, the circumstances in which exonyms have been needed to identify geographical realities in other places are diverse, and their formation has also followed varying paths.

As for their form, exonyms can come from the **orthographic adaptation** of a foreign name into Spanish using **romanisation** or **phonetic transcription**. On other occasions, we have adapted exonyms from other languages into Spanish (*Tombuctú*, from the French *Tombouctou*).

**Translation** is used when the endonym has an understandable meaning. Translations of names belonging to neighbouring languages are frequent due to the comprehension of their meaning. This is the case for *Costa de Marfil* (in French *Côte d'Ivoire*), *Costa Azul* (in French *Côte d'Azur*), *Sierra del Mar* (in Portuguese *Serra do Mar*), *Macizo Central* (in French *Massif Central*), *Mar del Norte* (in English *North Sea*), *Mar Negro* (in English *Black Sea*), *Países Bajos* (in Dutch *Nederland*).

The translation may also come from another language (generally French, Portuguese or English), such as *Cabo Blanco* in Mauritania, transliterated as *Ras Nouadhibou*, which has come down to us through the French *Cap Blanc*.

On other occasions, the exonym may come from the phonetic approximation to the endonym, as in the case of *Islandia* (in Icelandic, it is *Ísland*) and *Groenlandia* (in Danish, it is *Grønland*). In neither case is a translation (*Tierra Verde*, *Tierra de hielo*) used, as with the names mentioned above.

## 2. Why are we moving away from exonyms? Differing levels of usage

Globalisation, the media and education favour the use of endonyms and the consequent abandonment of exonyms, which are gradually being relegated to historical documents and contexts. Moreover, we must not forget that toponyms are part of a language and are not, therefore, unalterable but undergo a slow yet constant process of change. Their standardisation evolves according to the use made by the speakers of a given linguistic community, and their living character, as part of a given language, leads to different situations.

Many exonyms have fallen into disuse and been replaced by another form of exonym or by the endonym, such as *Abisinia*, *Angora*, *Alto Volta* and *Mastrique*, which have been replaced by *Etiopía*, *Ankara*, *Burkina Faso* and *Maastrich*. *Irán* replaced the name *Persia* in the early 20th century on the grounds that the former name covered only part of the population, while *Irán* covered the vast majority.

Changes in the names of countries are most frequently brought about by political developments.

*Maputo*, for example, became an official name in 1976, replacing the exonym *Lorenzo Márquez*, a translation of the former endonym *Lourenço Marques*. Similarly, *San Petersburgo* was replaced by *Petrogrado* and then *Leningrado* before finally reverting to its original name, which is the one we use today. Another example is *Volgogrado*, previously *Tsaritsyn* and *Stalingrado*.

*El Zaire*, the *República Democrática del Congo*, was called the *República del Zaire* during Mobutu's dictatorship and regained its historical name after the political change. *Ceilán* changed to *Sri Lanka*; *Siam* to *Tailandia*; *Tanganica* and *Zanzíbar* became today's *Tanzania*; *Rodesia del Norte* was renamed *Zambia*, and *Rodesia del Sur* took the name *Zimbabwe* after the two territories became independent.

*Birmania* was renamed *Myanmar* by the military junta, a name that was supposed to be more inclusive, although, in reality, the difference between the two names is their pronunciation because they refer to the same Burmese word, the former being the more common form and the latter more cultured. In Spanish and other Western languages, *Birmania* is still used in unofficial contexts.

Name changes can also occur following the creation of new sovereignties, such as *Checoslovaquia*, which was split into *República Checa* and *Eslovaquia*; *Yugoslavia*, divided into *Eslovenia*, *Bosnia y Herzegovina*, *Croacia*, *Macedonia del Norte*, *Montenegro* and *Serbia* (Kosovo is not recognised by the Spanish state); *Abisinia*, the former African kingdom divided into *Etiopía* and *Eritrea*; *Alto Volta* replaced by *Burkina Faso*, the name that replaced *Haute Volta*, following its independence from France.

*Holanda*, the name of a historical region and the present-day provinces of South Holland and North Holland, was used for a long time and persists in colloquial usage as the name of the country *Países Bajos*, *Nederland* in Dutch. More recent was the official change from *Swazilandia* to *Eswatini*.

In Spanish, the new forms often coexist with the old forms, as happens with the cities of *Bombay* and *Calcuta*, which the Indian government has standardised with the more indigenous forms of *Mumbai* and *Kolkata*, respectively.

Other Spanish exonyms should be avoided because they come from endonyms that have now disappeared, such as *Monemvasía*, which is *Μονεμβασία* in Greek and formerly *Malvasía*.

Transliterations from languages formerly in power should be avoided. Thus, for example, in romanisations of Ukrainian names, it is preferable to use the transliterated forms of Ukrainian rather than the Russian forms that existed prior to the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 and are used in pre-1991 atlases and maps, such as *Chernihiv* (Ukrainian: *Чернігів*), instead of *Chernigov* (Russian: *Чернигов*) and *Odesa* (Одеса), instead of *Odessa* (Russian: *Одесса*). Furthermore, changes in romanisation systems generate new forms, as we will see later in the section on *Transliteration*.

Occasionally, a historical event extends the use of an exonym. This was the case for *Ardenas*, from the French *Ardennes*, an exonym consolidated in memory of the battle that took place there; or *Cerisoles*, which is still in use instead of the current endonym *Ceresole*, also due to the memory of a battle that took place in the 16th century, and which was then transformed into Spanish as *Cerisoles*, with the morphological adaptation of the Italian plural -i. The use of the endonym, however, is gradually becoming more common.

Challenges in pronouncing an endonym can make the use of an exonym more necessary; for this reason, in addition to the logical historical reasons, some exonyms remain fully valid: E.g.: *Amberes* (*Antwerpen*), *Brujas* (*Brugge*), *Flandes* (*Vlaanderen*), *Flesinga* (*Vlissingen*), *Gante* (*Gent*), *Lieja* (*Liège*), *Limburgo* (*Limburg*), *Lovaina* (*Leuven*), *Malinas* (*Mechelen*), *Austria* (*Österreich*), *Viena* (*Wien*), *Salzburgo* (*Salzburger*); *Carintia* (*Kärnten*), *Estiria* (*Steiermark*). *Aquisgrán* (*Aachen*), *Coblenza* (*Koblenz*), *Sajonia* (*Sachsen*), *Turingia* (*Thüringen*), *Vestfalia o Westfalia* (*Westfalen*), *Selva Negra* (*Schwarzwald*).

Increased familiarity with a particular place can lead to contrary situations. For example, the use of the German name *Bayern* (*Baviera*) has become commonplace in the Spanish media because of the football team *Bayern Múnich*, just as the use of the endonym *Göteborg* has become more popular due to educational exchange. By contrast, sometimes, the exchange and presence of an exonym in the media can reaffirm its use, as is the case with *Bruselas* and *Estrasburgo*.

Sometimes exonyms and endonyms coexist, with one or the other being used depending on the context. The teaching of English, French and German in the Spanish education system means that toponyms in these languages are now more recognised and easier to pronounce than they were a few decades ago. We see this with *Bremen* (*Brema*), *Sigmaringen* (*Sigmaringa*), *Constanza* (*Konstanz*), *Dresde* (*Dresden*), *Francfort del Meno* (*Frankfurt am Main*), *Hanóver* (*Hannover*), *Maguncia* (*Mainz*), *Munich* (*München*), *Núremberg* (*Nürnberg*), *Ratisbona* (*Regensburg*), *Tubinga* (*Tübingen*), *Friburgo de Brisgovia* (*Freiburg im Breisgau*).

Generally speaking, the degree to which exonyms are used varies according to the context:

- International sphere: the use of endonyms is widespread, as is the use of English, especially for geographical entities with shared sovereignty and the names of seas, oceans and underwater relief.
- Written language in official communications: the use of endonyms is frequent in official bodies with international projection.
- Language in the media: the use of exonyms and endonyms in this context is highly variable, and they often coexist.
- Colloquial spoken language: the use of the original form or the exonym often depends on factors such as the age and cultural level of the speakers.



*Exonyms in circulation in Spanish*

In conclusion, exonyms and endonyms often coexist and are used interchangeably. In formal texts, the use of endonyms is more frequent, while in colloquial speech, the presence of exonyms increases.

Traditional exonyms should be included in databases with the necessary references to current names as they form part of the linguistic heritage.

When **homonyms**<sup>3</sup> exist for different places, a fairly frequent occurrence in toponymy, the place whose name is more used due to unique circumstances (political, cultural or touristic), often prevails over other less prominent places with the same name, which then revert to the endonym. For example, the exonym *Capitolio*, which used to designate one of the seven hills of Rome (*Campidoglio* in Italian), has fallen out of use to avoid confusion with the United States Congress. It is also common to use specific add-ons to avoid confusion (*Santiago de Compostela*, *Santiago de Chile*).

In historical works, where the exonym must fit the chronological context, such as the *batalla de Cerisoles* (*Ceresole*), the *caída de Constantinopla* (*Estambul*), the *batalla de Gelves* (*Djerba*), the use of the **historical exonym** is generally recommended. However, the diachronic study of the names of historical figures, events and places is a difficult task.

3 Homonym: names that are spelt the same but refer to different places



### 3. Nomenclature in Spanish (or 'Castilian') language in Spanish bilingual regions

Spain is made up of seventeen 'regions' (the term 'region' is used in this publication intended for an international reader, yet these territories are officially called 'autonomous communities' on the Spanish Constitution and are officially regions and nationalities) and two autonomous towns, i.e. Ceuta and Melilla. In six of these regions, i.e. Galicia, the Balearic Islands (*Illes Balears*), the Basque Country (*País Vasco/Euskadi*), Navarre (*Comunidad Foral de Navarra*), the Region of Valencia (*Comunitat Valenciana*) and Catalonia (*Cataluña/Catalunya*), there is another official language in addition to Spanish. Therefore, the use of the term 'Castilian' (*castellano*) referring to the common language seems more suitable than the term Spanish (*español*) in this context as *català*, *galego*, *euskera*, *valencià* and *aranés* are also Spanish languages. The term Spanish (*español*) is nevertheless more convenient in international contexts referring to Spain's native and official language that encompasses all the linguistic plurality of Spain with other unofficial languages or dialects.

There are official and unofficial endonyms in these Regions. In Galicia, Catalonia and the Balearic Islands, names in the region's exclusive language have been made official, but the historical toponymy in Castilian has not. In the Basque Country, Navarre and the Region of Valencia, standardisation in one language or another depends on the linguistic predominance of the municipalities, so there are names in the region's exclusive language, names in Castilian and bilingual names.

In some bilingual regions, toponyms in Castilian are considered exonyms (Batlle, 2010). However, in our opinion, names historically used in Castilian are undoubtedly endonyms, even if they do not have official status (Azcarate, 2010). As indicated above, an exonym is a name in a language that is not spoken where the designated geographical feature is located, yet Castilian is spoken and has official status in all Spanish regions.

Another reason for regarding Castilian names as exonyms in bilingual regions is based on the assumption that toponyms in Castilian originated outside those linguistics areas and are, therefore, an adaptation of local names into Castilian. However, there is no doubt that names in both Castilian and the region's own language have lived together throughout history as may observed on ancient publications that indeed include toponyms in Castilian in these regions.

In conclusion, it would be remiss to label names in Castilian as exonyms when what they really are is unofficial endonyms. Various regulations on languages mention that toponyms in Castilian may be used in textbooks, didactic material and other non-official uses when the text is also written in this language.

OFFICIAL ENDONYM	NON-OFFICIAL ENDONYM
Lleida	Lérida
Hondarribia	Fuenterrabía
Fisterra	Finisterre
Ebre (in Catalonia)	Ebro (in Catalonia)

Besides, exonyms in Spain do exist as there are names that designate a geographical element in a language not spoken in its location. For example, there are *Catalan* names for places in *Aragón* located far from Catalan-speaking territories.

ENDONYM IN SPANISH	EXONYM IN CATALAN
Zaragoza	Saragossa
Teruel	Terol
Huesca	Osca

Currently, usage of the official names in each of the languages spoken in Spain differs:

- Official channels, maps and the media mostly use the official names: *Lleida*, *Girona*, *Ourense*, *A Coruña*, etc.
- The situation in road signs is far from homogeneous. While the official names have always been used on roads managed by the National Public Administration, signs on roads belonging to the Regions have disparate labelling. Exonyms are used on some signs (*Saragossa*, *Terol*), yet the trend is to use the official name.
- In spoken language, both official and unofficial names are used interchangeably. Often, depending on age or perhaps political ideology, one or the other predominates.

## 4. Phonetic transcription

Phonetic transcription is the practice of converting the sounds of one language into the equivalent phonemes of another according to their pronunciation (*whisky/ güisqui*). While this method of adaptation used to be common in the creation of exonyms, nowadays, it is avoided. Sometimes the phonetic adaptation comes from other languages and not directly from the language of the endonym, often English and French. E.g.: *Niza* (*Nice*), *Varsovia* (*Warszawa*), *Yaundé* (*Yaoundé*), *Islandia* (*Ísland*), y *Uagadugú* (*Ouagadougou*).



*Phonetically transcribed names*

## 5. Transliteration

Transliteration is the practice of converting the characters of one language into the equivalent signs of another, using internationally standardised systems. Transliteration facilitates international exchange and communication. It also allows anyone to convert the name back to the original language. E.g.: Azores (*Açores*), *Karpathos* (*Κάρπαθος*).



*Use of endonyms and exonyms in the Portuguese-speaking islands*

Names generated by a standardised and current transliteration process should not be considered exonyms because the ability to revert the name to the language of origin removes any doubt about the form of the endonym. Names generated by previous transliteration systems or non-exact transliterations, however, are another issue and can be regarded as exonyms.

## Did you know...

**Names that result from transliterating endonyms using an officially standardised romanisation system, such as those recommended by the United Nations Expert Group on Romanisation Systems, should not be considered exonyms. In fact, they should be classified as exographs since they only differ from the endonym in the alphabet used to write them.**

The UN Working Group on Romanisation Systems updates, standardises and recommends romanisation systems for all non-Latin alphabets. These updated romanisation systems result in new forms which, in principle, should replace the names generated by obsolete conversions, but this should always be done with a view to the validity of the traditional exonym, which should be respected, even if it is a romanisation that is not currently recommended. For example, in Greek and Russian toponymy, some names are the result of early transliterations of the Greek and Cyrillic alphabet made by the *BGNN/PCGN (United States Board on Geographic Names and Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use)*. This means that some place names cannot be found in web searches.

Let's look at some examples of how changes in the transliteration system or the use of phonetic transcription produces changes in the Spanish name (we'll look at some exonyms from Greek in more detail later):

According to the current system, the Greek letter *X* corresponds to the digraph *ch* (*χ* sound), but according to other systems, it corresponds to *kh*, *h*, or the phonetic transcription *qu* in Spanish. This means that *Xíos* ranges between the forms *Chíos*, *Khíos* or *Quíos*; and *Χαλκιδική* becomes *Khalkidiki*, *Halkidiki*, or the old *Calcídica*.

The Cyrillic letter *Ю* corresponds to *ju* according to the current system and to *y* according to the former system so that *Рекa Бaсyoгa* ranges between river *Vasjugan* or river *Vasyugan*.

The Cyrillic letter *й* corresponds to *j* or *ij* according to the current system and to *y* according to the former system so that *Каменск-Уральский* becomes either *Kamensk Uralskij* or *Kamensk-Uralsky*.

According to the current system, the Cyrillic letter *x* should be transliterated as *h* (Russian) or *kh* (Ukrainian), but in Spanish, it is often transliterated as *j* because it fits the voiceless velar fricative sound of the Russian letter. Thus, we have river *Vóljov* or river *Vólhov* (from the Russian *Вóлхов*).

## PART 2

### FEATURES OF EXONYMS IN SPANISH

Several idiosyncrasies that have played a role in forming exonyms in Spanish can be highlighted.

#### 1. Orthographic conversion of specific phonemes from Latin alphabets into Spanish

Orthographic conversion is the practice of adapting letters from other languages with a Latin alphabet to the Spanish orthographic system to facilitate pronunciation among Spanish speakers. Several Spanish exonyms have been produced by converting spellings, but in principle, altering the letters that the Spanish speaker uses to pronounce the endonym without formally adapting it to their language should be avoided.

For example, historically, the letter *w* has been swapped for *u* in names used by other languages (*Botswana/Botsuana*, *Rwanda/Ruanda*). However, nowadays, there is little justification for converting the spelling because the original spelling is no longer strange to the Spanish speaker. The vowel sound /u/ (/gu/ if it forms a diphthong) is standardised in Spanish together with the voiced bilabial sound /b/, so the Spanish speaker will pronounce the *w* of the toponyms cited above as /u/, a vowel pronunciation reinforced by the use of new technological words such as *whatsapp* or *wifi*, which are often spelt with *w* and pronounced as /u/. Similarly, the spellings *j* and *dj* have traditionally been converted into *y* in Spanish in exonyms (*Fiji/Fiyi*, *Djibouti/Yibuti*), but we believe this conversion is unnecessary because it is common for the Spanish speaker to see words with these letters and hear them pronounced with [y], as in *djembe* [yembé], the name of the tennis player *Djokovic* [yokovich] or the film *Django*.

The addition of an *e* before a liquid *s*, which, while frequent in other languages, is strange in Spanish, is also frequently seen, as in *Strasbourg/Estrasburgo*, *Stockholm/Estocolmo*.

NAMES OF COUNTRIES AND CAPITALS IN SPANISH (exonyms and endonyms)				
ISO_3	COUNTRY Recommended name in Spanish	COUNTRY Former name	CAPITAL Recommended name in Spanish	CAPITAL Former name
BWA	Botswana	Botsuana	Gaborone	
DJI	Djibouti	Yibuti	Djibouti	Yibuti
FJI	Fiji	Fiyi	Suva	
RWA	Rwanda	Ruanda	Kigali	

*Extract from the table of countries and capitals drawn up by the National Geographic Institute of Spain (IGN)*

## 2. Morphological adaptation

Exonyms often repeat the morphological morphemes of the endonym. This is the case with *Nápoles* (from the plural *Napoli*); *Apeninos* (from the plural *Appennini*), and *Rodas* (*Ρόδος Ródos*), the feminine ending in “a” perhaps due to its assimilation to the word “rosas”, a flower related to the origin of the name of the island, although it may have originated from the mythological nymph Rodo. The morphological adaptation is repeated in the coordination of the specific term with the generic one: *Espóradas* (islands, feminine plural), *Samotracia* (island, feminine singular).

## 3. Changing the ending -burg to -burgo

In Spanish, exonyms with the ending *-burgo* are abundant, coming from the Germanic *burg*, which means fortress or town and has different forms: *bury*, *brough*, *borough* (England), *burgh* (Scotland), *burg* (Germany), *borg* (Scandinavia), *burcht* (Netherlands), *borgo* (Italy) and *bourg* (France). Spanish exonyms are formed by changing the ending to *-burgo* eliminating any diacritical marks, simplifying double consonants and adding an *e* before the liquid *s*, as mentioned above.

In the media and spoken language, either the exonym or endonym is used, while in cartography, there is a tendency to always use the endonym, with the exception of certain names in full use in Spanish.

Different levels of usage can be observed:

- Majority usage of the endonym  
*Altenburg*, *Charlottenburg*, *Coburg*, *Dillenburg*, *Duisburg*, *Elgersburg*, *Lauenburg*, *Lüneburg*, *Magdeburg*, *Marburg*, *Mecklenburg*, *Merseburg*, *Naumburg*, *Neuburg*, *Oldenburg*, *Schaumburg*, *Schwarzburg*, *Wartburg*, *Wolfsburg*, *Würzburg*, *Cherbourg*, *Helsingborg*, *Ålborg*, *Middlesbrough*.
- Majority usage of the exonym  
*Brandemburgo* –rather than the old *Brandeburgo*– (*Brandenburg*), *Edimburgo* (*Edimburg*), *Friburgo de Brisgovia* (*Freiburg im Breisgau*), *Estrasburgo* (*Strasbourg*), *Johannesburgo* (*Johannesburg*), *Hamburgo* (*Hamburg*), *Luxemburgo* (*Luxembourg*), *Salzburg* (*Salzburg*), *San Petesburgo* (Санкт-Петербург > *Sankt-Peterburg*).
- Coexistence of the exonym and endonym  
*Augsburgo* (*Augsburg*), *Duisburgo* (*Duisburg*), *Gotemburgo* (*Göteborg*), *Ratisbona* (*Regensburg*).

## 4. Changing the ending -land to -landia and -landa

The suffix *-landia* or *-landa* (from the Germanic *land*) is a Germanic root meaning ‘country’, ‘land’ or ‘place of’ that is common in toponymy with Germanic origin:



The -landia ending is more common: *Curlandia*, *Finlandia*, *Gotlandia*, *Groenlandia*, *Islandia*, *Jutlandia*, *Neederlandia*, *Nueva Zelandia* (o *Nueva Zelanda*), *Selandia*, *Tailandia*; it is also frequently used for territories with colonial history in Africa: *Basutolandia*, *Bechuanalandia*, *Jubalandia*, *Manicalandia*, *Mashonalandia*, *Matabelelandia*, *Nyasalandia*, *Ogonilandia*, *Puntlandia*, *Sekukunilandia*, *Somalilandia*, *Swazilandia*, *Togolandia*, *Witulandia*.

While the suffix -landa is used in: *Flevolanda*, *Holanda*, *Irlanda*, *Nueva Zelanda*.

## 5. Adding a suffix -ado

Another way of forming exonyms in Spanish is to attach the suffix -ado to the endonym, with slight variations in some cases. This can be seen in: *Borbonesado*, *Bordelesado*, *Delfinado*, *Genovesado*, *Leonesado*/*Lyonesado*, *Milanesado*, *Nivernesado*, *Noyonesado*, *Oranesado*, *Orleanesado*, *Palatinado*, *Vienesado*.

## 6. Peculiarities of Greek exonyms

As a result of the historical importance of Greece and the ongoing relationships between Mediterranean countries, Spanish has an abundance of exonyms for Greek toponyms, and their transformations are fundamentally due to three reasons:

- a) Because the endonyms changed with the transition from Ancient to Modern Greek, both in form and sound. For example, the Ancient Greek name for the river *Aspropótamos* ('white river') was *Aqueloo*, and therefore this was the name translated into Spanish in traditional works. Similarly, the island of *Lefkada* was called *Leucas* in Spanish, as the exonym comes from the ancient Greek Λευκάς.
- b) Because the Spanish exonyms were created by phonetic transcription rather than today's recommended romanisation; the difference between the traditional name *Nicosia* and its currently recommended transliterated version, *Lefkosía* (Λευκωσία), provides a good example of this situation.
- c) Because the Spanish names come from obsolete romanisation systems that sometimes deviate from the current conversion process, as we will see below.

The United Nations Expert Group on Romanisation Systems recommends the ELOT 743 romanisation system from the Greek Organisation for Standardisation prepared by Greece and Cyprus, which was adopted in 1987 (Resolution VI/19, *Romanisation of the Greek alphabet for use in geographical names*). It is also interesting to consult ISO Standard 843 (1997), inspired by the former system.

At present, the tendency is to respect the historical romanisations for names in frequent use, while the current standard is preferred for less frequently used toponyms. Next, we will consider some of the specific problems that have arisen with Spanish exonyms as a result of changes in the standardisation of international romanisation systems.

- According to the ELOT 743 system, E/ε epsilon is transliterated to *e*. However, Spanish exonyms oscillate between *e* and *a*, depending on the letter's position in the word, with those situated towards the end being more subject to change due to the grammatical requirement for gender agreement.

*Espóradas*: Σποράδες, the islands

*Tesalónica*: Θεσσαλονίκη (*Thessaloníki*), the city

*Tesalía*: Θεσσαλία (*Thessalía*), the region

- According to the ELOT 743 system, H/η eta or ita is transliterated to *i*, but earlier systems transliterated it to *e*. This duality leads to different forms for the same Greek toponym, with the consequent uncertainties around the most appropriate form to use in current publications.

## Did you know...

The use of different transliteration systems over time leads to the existence of multiple exonyms for the same place. This phenomenon occurs frequently in Greek toponymy (*Chíos/Khíos/Quíos*), (*Creta/Kriti*).

*Creta*, now *Kriti* (Κρήτη)

*Lemnos*, now *Limnos* (Λήμνος)

*Tenos* now *Tínos* (Τήνος)

*Milos* (Μήλος) does conform to current romanisation standards

In addition, the capital letter eta *H* has been transliterated into the Spanish letters *He*.

*Heraclión* (Ηράκλειο), instead of the transliteration *Iraklio*, with the romanisation of *ει* into *i*, as per the BGN/PCGN 1962 system

- K/k kappa is transliterated according to the ELOT 743 system as *k*, but in earlier systems, it was *c*. The traditional romanisation of the letter kappa *k* into *c* is still recommended by the Royal Spanish Academy (RAE), but this is problematic because in Spanish, the *c* varies phonetically depending on the vowel accompanying it, and by transliterating it as *c*, Greek toponyms with the *kappa* before the vowels *e* or *i* are pronounced very differently to the endonym.

Sounds produced by *c* in Spanish and their repercussions for Greek exonyms:

*c* + *a*, *o*, *u* [k], identical sound to the Greek endonym

*c* + *e* or *i* [θ], sounds very different from the Greek endonym

Predominant use of traditional romanisation:

*Cícladas* (Κύκλαδες) (*Kýklades*)

*Corfú*: Κέρκυρα, (*Kérkyra*). The form *Corfú* comes from *Κορυφαί* (*koryfaí*, “fortalezas”), which led to the feminine singular *Κορυφή* (*koryfó*) and *Coriphus* in Latin

*Corinto* (Κόρινθος) (*Kórinthos*)

*Creta* (Κρήτη) (*Kríti*)

*Macedonia*: Μακεδονία (*Makedonía*)

*Miconos* (Μύκονος) (*Mýkonos*)

*Samotracia*: Σαμοθράκη (*Samothráki*)

*Dodecaneso* (Δωδεκάνησα) (*Dodekánisa*)

Random usage of historical and current romanisation;

*Cefalonia* // *Kefalonia* (Κεφαλονιά)

*Citera* // *Khytira* (Κύθηρα)

Preferential use of current romanisation:

*Skyros* (Σκύρος), instead of the traditional transliteration: *Esciros*

- Θ/θ theta, is currently transliterated into *th* in Spanish, but the traditional system transliterated it into the letter *t*. The digraph *th* transcribes the Greek sound into English, but in Spanish, that sound would be represented by the *c* or *z*. Moreover, the problem is that when transliterated into Spanish, the letters *th* have been simplified to *t*, which means the pronunciation differs significantly from the Greek endonyms. Furthermore, they coincide with the toponyms that come from the letter tau /t/.

*Atenas*: Αθήνα (*Athína*)

*Tesalónica, Salónica*: Θεσσαλονίκη (*Thessaloniki*)

*Tásos*: Θάσος *Thásos*

Nowadays, the tendency is to respect the standardised romanisation:

*Kárpathos* (Κάρπαθος), previously *Karpatos* and *Cárpatos*

*Kythira* (Κύθηρα), previously *Citera*

- X/χ is now transliterated as *ch*, a Latin digraph corresponding to the sound /k/ in Spanish, but it was formerly represented by the digraphs *kh* or *qu*.

*Chíos (Χίος)*, formerly *Khíos* or *Quíos*, forms that are falling into disuse

Finally, with regard to accentuation, it should be noted that names in classical Greek always have a written accent, but in the romanisation of toponymy into Spanish, it is advisable to observe the rules of accentuation laid down by Spanish orthography. Thus, for example, *Ioánnina (Ιωάννινα)* has an accent because it is a proparoxytone word, but *Lamia (Λάμια)* does not because it is a flat word ending in a vowel, as do *Serres (Σέρρες)*, *Samos (Σάμος)* and *Lesbos (Λέσβος)*.



*Different romanisation systems for Greek toponyms*

## PART 3

### EVOLUTION AND USE OF EXONYMS IN SPANISH

#### 1. Jurisdiction with regard to the standardisation of exonyms in Spanish

Unlike the toponymy of Spain, which falls under the jurisdiction of specific authorities recognised by law, there is no official body responsible for standardising the criteria for and usage of exonyms in the Spanish language.

In Spain, the transition to democracy in 1978 and the consequent co-officiality of languages gave rise to the need to establish the necessary authorities and standardise geographical toponyms in their corresponding languages. However, geographical toponyms beyond the country's borders have not been a cause for concern, nor have they generated feelings of ownership, as was seen in other countries in the wake of the political transitions of the last century.

While the official bodies that use foreign toponymy can play a standardising role (e.g., the National Geographic Institute of Spain [IGN], the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation [MAEC] and the Royal Spanish Academy [RAE]), the reality is that the lack of an official authority leads to the existence of different forms for the same endonym and an irregular usage of exonyms.

In this context, the IGN's work on the National Atlas of Spain, in its capacity as an official cartographic institution, is essential to set criteria and establish a standardised usage of exonyms in the Spanish language.

The most numerous exonyms in Spanish correspond to places in countries with which Spain has had historical relations and, as is to be expected, to geographical entities in its neighbouring countries, especially France, Portugal and Italy. In the case of Portugal, the linguistic proximity between Portuguese and Spanish has given rise to the habitual use of Portuguese endonyms in Spanish-language media. By contrast, there are fewer Spanish exonyms for Moroccan toponyms, and they are often direct transliterations.

The exonyms for countries and major geographical features (oceans, major rivers, mountain ranges, significant islands) are the ones least likely to have changed over time and remain in frequent use across all contexts. However, names belonging to languages that do not have a Latin alphabet, such as Cyrillic or Greek, have been more susceptible to change because changes in the romanisation systems have led to the existence of different exonyms for the same place.

#### Did you know...

Specific, legally recognised authorities establish Spain's official toponymy, but there is no officially established authority for the standardisation of foreign toponymy in the Spanish language. There are, however, several fundamental bodies that intervene in the process: **IGN, MAEC, UNGEGN, RAE.**

## 2. Spanish exonyms for countries

The names of countries and their capitals are widely used exonyms in both cartography and texts, making the standardisation of their names essential.

The National Atlas of Spain (ANE) establishes and periodically updates a standardised list of countries and capitals, with the endonyms in their local languages or transliterations and, where they exist, the corresponding current exonyms in Spanish. The IGN has worked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (MAEC), and the names established by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) and the Royal Spanish Academy (RAE) were consulted. There were discrepancies in some forms and spellings, which have been resolved using different criteria.

### NAMES OF COUNTRIES AND CAPITALS IN SPANISH (exonyms and endonyms)

ISO3	COUNTRY Recommended name in Spanish	COUNTRY Former name	CAPITAL Recommended name in Spanish	CAPITAL Former name	Notes
AFG	Afganistán		Kabul		
ALB	Albania		Tirana		
DEU	Alemania		Berlín		
AND	Andorra		Andorra la Vella	Andorra la Vieja	
AGO	Angola		Luanda		
ATG	Antigua y Barbuda		Saint John's		
SAU	Arabia Saudí	Arabia Saudita	Riad		
DZA	Argelia		Argel		
ARG	Argentina		Buenos Aires		
ARM	Armenia		Ereván		
AUS	Australia		Canberra		
AUT	Austria		Viena		
AZE	Azerbaiyán		Bakú		
BHS	Bahamas		Nassau		
BHR	Bahrein		Manama		
BGD	Bangladesh	Bangladés	Dhaka	Dacca	
BRB	Barbados		Bridgetown		
BEL	Bélgica		Bruselas		
BLZ	Belice		Belmopan	Belmopán	
BEN	Benin	Benín	Porto Novo		(1)
BTN	Bhután	Bután	Timbu		
BLR	Bielorrusia		Minsk		
BOL	Bolivia		Sucre		(2)
BIH	Bosnia y Herzegovina	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Sarajevo		
BWA	Botswana	Botsuana	Gaborone		
BRA	Brasil		Brasilia		
BRN	Brunei Darussalam		Bandar Seri Begawan		
BGR	Bulgaria		Sofía		
BFA	Burkina Faso	Alto Volta	Uagadugú		
BDI	Burundi		Bujumbura	Buyumbura	
CPV	Cabo Verde		Praia		
KHM	Camboya		Phnom Penh		
CMR	Camerún		Yaundé		
CAN	Canadá		Ottawa		
TCD	Chad		Nyameña	Yamena	
CHL	Chile		Santiago de Chile		
CHN	China		Beijing	Pekín	(3)
CYP	Chipre		Nicosia		
VAT	Ciudad del Vaticano		Ciudad del Vaticano		
COL	Colombia		Bogotá	Santafé de Bogotá	



ISO3	COUNTRY Recommended name in Spanish	COUNTRY Former name	CAPITAL Recommended name in Spanish	CAPITAL Former name	Notes
COM	Comoras		Moroni		
COG	Congo		Brazzaville		
CIV	Costa de Marfil		Yamusukro	Abidjan	
CRI	Costa Rica		San José		
HRV	Croacia		Zagreb		
CUB	Cuba		La Habana		
DNK	Dinamarca		Copenhague		
DJI	Djibouti	Yibuti	Djibouti	Yibuti	
DMA	Dominica		Roseau		
ECU	Ecuador		Quito		
EGY	Egipto		El Cairo		
SLV	El Salvador		San Salvador		
ARE	Emiratos Árabes Unidos		Abu Dhabi	Abu Dabi	
ERI	Eritrea		Asmara		
SVK	Eslovaquia		Bratislava		
SVN	Eslovenia		Liubliana		
ESP	España		Madrid		
USA	Estados Unidos de América		Washington, D.C.		
EST	Estonia		Tallin		
SWZ	Eswatini	Suazilandia	Mbabane		(4)
ETH	Etiopía		Addis Abeba	Adís Abeba	
RUS	Federación de Rusia	Rusia	Moscú		
FJI	Fiji	Fiyi	Suva		
PHL	Filipinas		Manila		
FIN	Finlandia		Helsinki		
FRA	Francia		París		
GAB	Gabón		Libreville		
GMB	Gambia		Banjul		
GEO	Georgia		Tiflis		
GHA	Ghana		Accra		
GRD	Granada		Saint George's		
GRC	Grecia		Atenas		
GTM	Guatemala		Ciudad de Guatemala		
GIN	Guinea		Conakry		
GNB	Guinea Bissau		Bissau		
GNQ	Guinea Ecuatorial		Malabo		
GUY	Guyana		Georgetown		
HTI	Haití		Puerto Príncipe		
HND	Honduras		Tegucigalpa		
HUN	Hungría		Budapest		
IND	India		Nueva Delhi		
IDN	Indonesia		Yakarta		
IRN	Irán		Teherán		
IRQ	Iraq	Irak	Bagdad		
IRL	Irlanda		Dublín		
ISL	Islandia		Reikiavik		
MHL	Islas Marshall		Majuro		
SLB	Islas Salomón		Honiara		
ISR	Israel				(5)
ITA	Italia		Roma		
JAM	Jamaica		Kingston		
JPN	Japón		Tokio		
JOR	Jordania		Ammán		
KAZ	Kazajstán	Kazajistán	Nur-Sultan	Astaná	(6)
KEN	Kenia		Nairobi		
KGZ	Kirguistán		Bishkek	Biskek	
KIR	Kiribati		Tarawa Sur		(7)
KWT	Kuwait		Kuwait		
LAO	Laos		Vientiane	Vientián	
LSO	Lesoto	Lesoto	Maseru		
LVA	Letonia		Riga		
LBN	Líbano		Beirut		
LBR	Liberia		Monrovia		
LBY	Libia		Trípoli		
LIE	Liechtenstein		Vaduz		
LTU	Lituania		Vilnius	Vilna	
LUX	Luxemburgo		Luxemburgo		

ISO3	COUNTRY Recommended name in Spanish	COUNTRY Former name	CAPITAL Recommended name in Spanish	CAPITAL Former name	Notes
MKD	Macedonia del Norte		Skopie		
MDG	Madagascar		Antananarivo		
MYS	Malasia		Kuala Lumpur		
MWI	Malawi	Malauí	Lilongwe	Lilongüe	
MDV	Maldivas	Maldivas(las)	Malé		
MLI	Mali	Malí	Bamako		
MLT	Malta		La Valeta		
MAR	Marruecos		Rabat		
MUS	Mauricio		Port Louis		
MRT	Mauritania		Nuakchot		
MEX	México		Ciudad de México	México D.F.	
FSM	Micronesia		Palikir		
MDA	Moldavia		Chisinau		
MCO	Mónaco		Mónaco		
MNG	Mongolia		Ulaanbaatar	Ulán Bator	
MNE	Montenegro		Podgorica		
MOZ	Mozambique		Maputo		
MMR	Myanmar	Birmania	Nay Pyi Taw		
NAM	Namibia		Windhoek		
NRU	Nauru		Yaren (no oficial)		
NPL	Nepal		Katmandú		
NIC	Nicaragua		Managua		
NER	Níger		Niamey		
NGA	Nigeria		Abuja	Abuya	
NOR	Noruega		Oslo		
NZL	Nueva Zelanda		Wellington		
OMN	Omán		Mascate		
NLD	Países Bajos	Holanda	Ámsterdam		
PAK	Pakistán		Islamabad		
PLW	Palaos		Ngerulmud		(8)
PSE	Palestina				(9)
PAN	Panamá		Ciudad de Panamá		
PNG	Papúa Nueva Guinea		Port Moresby		
PRY	Paraguay		Asunción		
PER	Perú		Lima		
POL	Polonia		Varsovia		
PRT	Portugal		Lisboa		
QAT	Qatar		Doha		
GBR	Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte		Londres		
CAF	República Centroafricana		Bangui		
CZE	República Checa		Praga		
KOR	República de Corea	Corea del Sur	Seúl		
COD	República Democrática del Congo	Zaire(el)	Kinshasa		
DOM	República Dominicana		Santo Domingo		
PRK	República Popular Democrática de Corea	Corea del Norte	Pyongyang		
ROU	Rumania	Rumanía	Bucarest		
RWA	Rwanda	Ruanda	Kigali		
WSM	Samoa		Apia		
KNA	San Cristóbal y Nieves		Basseterre		
SMR	San Marino		San Marino		
VCT	San Vicente y las Granadinas		Kingstown		
LCA	Santa Lucía		Castries		
STP	Santo Tomé y Príncipe		Santo Tomé		
SEN	Senegal		Dakar		
SRB	Serbia		Belgrado		
SYC	Seychelles	Seychelles(las)	Victoria		
SLE	Sierra Leona		Freetown		
SGP	Singapur		Singapur		
SYR	Siria		Damasco		
SOM	Somalia		Mogadiscio		
LKA	Sri Lanka	Ceilán	Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte		(10)
ZAF	Sudáfrica		Pretoria		(11)
SDN	Sudán		Jartum		

ISO3	COUNTRY Recommended name in Spanish	COUNTRY Former name	CAPITAL Recommended name in Spanish	CAPITAL Former name	Notes
SSD	Sudán del Sur		Yuba		
SWE	Suecia		Estocolmo		
CHE	Suiza		Berna		
SUR	Surinam		Paramaribo		
THA	Tailandia		Bangkok		
TZA	Tanzania		Dodoma		
TJK	Tayikistán		Dushanbé	Dusambé	
TLS	Timor Oriental		Dili		
TGO	Togo		Lomé		
TON	Tonga		Nuku'alofa		
TTO	Trinidad y Tobago		Puerto España		
TUN	Túnez		Túnez		
TKM	Turkmenistán		Ashgabat	Asjabad	
TUR	Turquía		Ankara		
TUV	Tuvalu		Vaiaku	Fongafale	(12)
UKR	Ucrania		Kiev		
UGA	Uganda		Kampala		
URY	Uruguay		Montevideo		
UZB	Uzbekistán		Tashkent	Taskent	
VUT	Vanuatu		Port Vila		
VEN	Venezuela		Caracas		
VNM	Vietnam		Hanoi	Hanói	
YEM	Yemen		Sana	Saná	
ZMB	Zambia	Rodesia del Norte	Lusaka		
ZWE	Zimbabue	Zimbabue / Rodesia del Sur	Harare		

**NOTES:** (1) *Cotonú* is the seat of government. (2) The principal capital is *Sucre* (the constitutional capital). La Paz is the administrative capital. (3) *Beijing* is the romanisation of "pinyin" in Mandarin. (4) Former name of the country: *Swazilandia*. (5) Jerusalem is not internationally recognised as the capital. The Spanish embassy is in Tel Aviv. (6) Formerly: *Astana*. (7) The capital is located in the southern part of the atoll. For some time, Bairiki was considered the capital. (8) *Ngerulmud* is in Melekeok State. Formerly the capital was *Koror*. (9) *Ramala* (or *Ramallah*) is the administrative centre, pending international recognition of East Jerusalem as the capital. The Spanish consulate is in Jerusalem. (10) *Colombo* is the seat of government and the economic centre. (11) *Bloemfontein* is the seat of the judiciary, and Cape Town is the seat of Parliament. (12) *Vaiaku* is located on Fongafale Island on the Funafuti Atoll.

## Explanation of the fields in the exonym table

### ISO3

ISO 3166-1 code. Codes that represent the names of countries and their subdivisions that include:

ISO\_3: three-letter code (*ISO 3166-1 alpha-2*)

### COUNTRY Recommended name in Spanish

This column contains the names used in the National Atlas of Spain (ANE) and, generally, in official Spanish media:

- Spanish exonyms: country names in Spanish that differ from their name in the local language

*Alemania* (exonym for *Deutschland*)  
*Austria* (exonym for *Österreich*)

- Spanish language endonyms and local forms in other languages that do not have Spanish exonyms

*Argentina* (endonym in Spanish)

*Angola, Portugal* (endonyms in Portuguese)

### COUNTRY Former name

Country names that have traditionally been used in Spanish but which have fallen into disuse and are no longer used in standard cartography or other official communications. Also included are country names that have undergone a name change. The use of traditional names tends to be restricted and is not recommended in new publications.

*Birmania*, the traditional name for *Myanmar*

*Ceilán*, the traditional name for *Sri Lanka*

### CAPITAL Recommended name in Spanish

Spanish exonyms, i.e. names of capitals in Spanish that differ from their name in the local language and are used in the National Atlas of Spain and official communications.

*Teherán* (exonym for *Tehrān*)

*Atenas* (exonym for *Athína*)

The local form is provided where there is no exonym, or it has fallen into disuse.

*Skopje, Riga*

### CAPITAL Former name

Name of the capital city in Spanish, restricted to use in unofficial contexts.

*Vilna*, nombre tradicional de *Vilnius*

## LOCAL NAMES OF COUNTRIES AND CAPITALS (endonyms)

ISO3	COUNTRY Local name	CAPITAL Local name	ENDONYM LANGUAGE	ISO 639-1
AFG	Afghānestān/Afghānistān	Kābul	Dari / Pashto	.../ps
ALB	Shqipëri / Shqipëria	Tiranë	Albanian	sq
DEU	Deutschland	Berlin	German	de
AND	Andorra	Andorra la Vella	Catalan	ca
AGO	Angola	Luanda	Portuguese	pt
ATG	Antigua and Barbuda	Saint John's	English	en
SAU	As Su'ūdīyah	Ar Riyāḍ	Arabic	ar

ISO3	COUNTRY Local name	CAPITAL Local name	ENDONYM LANGUAGE	ISO 639-1
DZA	Al Jazā'ir	Al Jazā'ir	Arabic	ar
ARG	Argentina (la)	Ciudad de Buenos Aires	Spanish	es
ARM	Hayastan	Yerevan	Armenian	hy
AUS	Australia	Canberra	English	en
AUT	Österreich	Wien	German	de
AZE	Azərbaycan	Bakı	Azeri	az
BHS	Bahamas (the)	Nassau	English	en
BHR	Al Baḥrayn	Al Manāmah	Arabic	ar
BGD	Bāḥlādeśh	Dhāka	Bengali	bn
BRB	Barbados	Bridgetown	English	en
BEL	België / Belgique (la) / Belgien	Brussel / Bruxelles	Dutch / French / German	nl / fr / de
BLZ	Belize	Belmopan	English	en
BEN	Bénin (le)	Porto-Novo	French	fr
BTN	Druk Yul	Thimphu	Dzongkha	dz
BLR	Bielaruś / Belarus'	Minsk	Belarusian / Russian	be / ru
BOL	Bolivia	Sucre, La Paz	Spanish	es
BIH	Bosna i Hercegovina	Sarajevo	Bosnian / Croatian / Serbian	bs / hr / sr
BWA	Botswana	Gaborone	English	en
BRA	Brasil (o)	Brasília	Portuguese	pt
BRN	Brunei Darussalam / Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan	Malay / English	ms / en
BGR	Bǎlgarija	Sofia	Bulgarian	bg
BFA	Burkina (le)	Ouagadougou	French	fr
BDI	Burundi (le) / Burundi	Bujumbura	French / Kirundi	fr / rn
CPV	Cabo Verde	Praia	Portuguese	pt
KHM	Kāmpūchéa	Phnum Pénh	Cambodian	km
CMR	Cameroon / Camerooun (le)	Yaoundé	English / French	en / fr
CAN	Canada (le) / Canada	Ottawa	French / English	fr / en
TCO	Tshād / Tchad (le)	N'Djamena	Arabic / French	ar / fr
CHL	Chile	Santiago	Spanish	es
CHN	Zhongguo	Beijing	Chinese	zh
CYP	Kýpros / Kibris	Lefkosia / Lefkoşa	Greek / Turkish	el / tr
VAT	Status Civitatis Vaticanæ / Stato della Città del Vaticano	Civitatis Vaticanæ / Città del Vaticano	Latin / Italian	la / it
COL	Colombia	Bogotá	Spanish	es
COM	Al Qamar / Comores (les) / Ndzواني / Komori	Moroni	Arabic / French / Shindzuani / Shikomori	ar / fr / ... / zd
COG	Congo (le)	Brazzaville	French	fr
CIV	Côte d'Ivoire (la)	Yamoussoukro	French	fr
CRI	Costa Rica	San José	Spanish	es
HRV	Hrvatska	Zagreb	Croatian	hr
CUB	Cuba	La Habana	Spanish	es
DNK	Danmark	København	Danish	da
DJI	Jībūtī / Djibouti	Jībūtī / Djibouti	Arabic / French	ar / fr
DMA	Dominica	Roseau	English	en
ECU	Ecuador (el)	Quito	Spanish	es
EGY	Miṣr	Al Qāhira	Arabic	ar
SLV	El Salvador	San Salvador	Spanish	es
ARE	Al Imārāt	Abu Dhabi	Arabic	ar
ERI	Irīṭrīyā / Eritrea / ኢትዮጵያ / Iertra	Asmarah / Asmera	Arabic / English / Tigrinya	ar / en / ti
SVK	Slovensko	Bratislava	Slovak	sk
SVN	Slovenija	Ljubljana	Slovenian	sl
ESP	España	Madrid	Spanish	es
USA	United States of America (the)	Washington	English	en
EST	Eesti	Tallinn	Estonian	et
SWZ	Swaziland / Eswatini	Mbabane	English / Swazi	en / ss
ETH	Ityop'iya	Addis Abeba / Addis Ababa	Amharic	am
RUS	Rossija	Moskva	Russian	ru
FJI	Fiji / Viti	Suva	English / Fijian	en / fj
PHL	Philippines (the) / Pilipinas	Manila/Maynila	English / Tagalog	en / tl
FIN	Suomi / Finland	Helsinki/ Helsingfors	Finnish / Swedish	fi / sv
FRA	France (la)	Paris	French	fr
GAB	Gabon (le)	Libreville	French	fr
GMB	Gambia (the)	Banjul	English	en
GEO	Sak'art'velo	T'bilisi	Georgian	ka
GHA	Ghana	Accra	English	en
GRD	Grenada	St George's	English	en

ISO3	COUNTRY Local name	CAPITAL Local name	ENDONYM LANGUAGE	ISO 639-1
GRC	Ellás	Athína	Greek	el
GTM	Guatemala	Ciudad de Guatemala	Spanish	es
GIN	Guinée (la)	Conakry	French	fr
GNB	Guiné-Bissau	Bissau	Portuguese	pt
GNQ	Guinée équatoriale (la) / Guinea Ecuatorial (la)	Malabo	French / Spanish	fr / es
GUY	Guyana	Georgetown	English	en
HTI	Haïti / Ayiti	Port-au-Prince	French / Haitian	fr / ht
HND	Honduras	Tegucigalpa	Spanish	es
HUN	Magyarország	Budapest	Hungarian	hu
IND	India / Bhārat	Naī Dillī	English / Hindi	en / hi
IDN	Indonesia	Jakarta	Indonesian	id
IRN	Īrān	Tehrān	Persian	fa
IRQ	Al 'Irāq	Baghdād	Arabic	ar
IRL	Ireland / Éire	Dublin / Baile Átha Cliath	English / Irish	en / ga
ISL	Ísland	Reykjavík	Icelandic	is
MHL	Marshall Islands (the) / Aelōñ in Majeļ	Majuro	English / Marshalese	en / mh
SLB	Solomon Islands	Honiara	English	en
ISR	Isrā'īl / Yisra'el		Arabic / Hebrew	ar / he
ITA	Italia (l')	Roma	Italian	it
JAM	Jamaica	Kingston	English	en
JPN	Nihon / Nippon	Tokyo	Japanese	ja
JOR	Al Urdun	'Ammān	Arabic	ar
KAZ	Qazaqstan /Kazakhstan	Nur-Sultan	Kazakh / Russian	kk / ru
KEN	Kenya	Nairobi	English / Swahili	en / sw
KGZ	Kyrgyzstan / Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek/Biшкек	Kyrgyz / Russian	ky / ru
KIR	Kiribati	Bairiki	English / Gilbertese	en / ...
KWT	Al Kuwayt	Al Kuwayt	Arabic	ar
LAO	Sathalanalat Paxathipatai Paxaxôn Lao	Viangchan	Lao	lo
LSO	Lesotho	Maseru	English / Sesotho	en / st
LVA	Latvija	Rīga	Latvian	lv
LBN	Lubnān	Bayrūt	Arabic	ar
LBR	Liberia	Monrovia	English	en
LBY	Lībyā	Ṭarābulus	Arabic	ar
LIE	Liechtenstein	Vaduz	German	de
LTU	Lietuva	Vilnius	Lithuanian	lt
LUX	Luxembourg (le) / Luxembourg / Lëtzebuerg	Luxembourg / Luxembourg / Lëtzebuerg	French / German / Luxembourgish	fr / de / lb
MKD	Poranešna Jugoslovenska Republika Makedonija	Skopje	Macedonian	mk
MDG	Madagascar / Madagasikara	Antananarivo	French / Malagasy	fr / mg
MYS	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Malay	ms
MWI	Malawi / Malawi	Lilongwe	Chichewa / English	ny / en
MDV	Dhivehi Raajje	Maale	Maldivian	dv
MLI	Mali (le)	Bamako	French	fr
MLT	Malta	Valletta / Valleta	English / Maltese	en / mt
MAR	Al Maghrib	Ar Ribāṭ	Arabic	ar
MUS	Mauritius	Port Louis	English	en
MRT	Mūrītāniya	Nawākshūt	Arabic	ar
MEX	México	Ciudad de México	Spanish	es
FSM	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Palikir	English	en
MDA	Moldova	Kishinev	Romanian	ro
MCO	Monaco	Monaco	French	fr
MNG	Mongol	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolian	mn
MNE	Crna Gora	Podgorica	Montenegrin	...
MOZ	Moçambique	Maputo	Portuguese	pt
MMR	Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw	Burmese	my
NAM	Namibia	Windhoek	English	en
NRU	Nauru / Naoero	Yaren	English / Nauruan	en / na
NPL	Nepāl	Kāṭhmāḍaum	Nepali	ne
NIC	Nicaragua	Managua	Spanish	es
NER	Niger (le)	Niamey	French	fr
NGA	Nigeria	Abuja	English	en
NOR	Norge / Noreg	Oslo	Norwegian Bokmål / Nynorsk	nb / nn
NZL	New Zealand / Aotearoa	Wellington	English / Maori	en / mi
OMN	'Umān	Masqaṭ	Arabic	ar



ISO3	COUNTRY Local name	CAPITAL Local name	ENDONYM LANGUAGE	ISO 639-1
NLD	Nederland	Amsterdam	Dutch	nl
PAK	Pakistan / Pākistān	Islamabad / Islāmābād	English / Urdu	en / ur
PLW	Palau / Belau	Ngerulmud	English / Palauan	en / pau
PSE	Filastīn, Falastīn o Filistīn	Al Quds al Sharqiya/ rāmallāh	Arabic	ar
PAN	Panamá	Panamá	Spanish	es
PNG	Papua New Guinea / Papuaniugini	Port Moresby	English / Hiri Motu	en / ho
PRY	Paraguay / Paraguay (el)	Asunción	Guarani / Spanish	gn / es
PER	Perú / Perú (el)	Lima	Quechua / Spanish	qu / es
POL	Polska	Warszawa	Polish	pl
PRT	Portugal	Lisboa	Portuguese	pt
QAT	Qaṭar	Ad Dawḥah	Arabic	ar
GBR	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the)	London	English	en
CAF	République centrafricaine (la) / Ködörösêse tî Bêafrîka	Bangui	French / Sango	fr / sg
CZE	Česko	Praha	Czech	cs
KOR	Han'guk	Seoul	Korean	ko
COD	République démocratique du Congo (la)	Kinshasa	French	fr
DOM	Dominicana (la)	Santo Domingo	Spanish	es
PRK	Chosŏn	Phyŏngyang	Korean	ko
ROU	România	București	Romanian	ro
RWA	Rwanda / Rwanda (le) / Rwanda	Kigali	English / French / Rwandan	en/ fr / rw
WSM	Samoa	Apia	English / Samoan	en / sm
KNA	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Basseterre	English	en
SMR	San Marino	San Marino	Italian	it
VCT	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Kingstown	English	en
LCA	Saint Lucia	Castries	English	en
STP	São Tomé e Príncipe	São Tomé	Portuguese	pt
SEN	Sénégal (le)	Dakar	French	fr
SRB	Srbija	Beograd	Serbian	sr
SYC	Sesel / Seychelles / Seychelles (les)	Victoria	Seychellois Creole / English / French	... / en / fr
SLE	Sierra Leone	Freetown	English	en
SGP	Xinjiapo / Singapore / Singapura / Chiñkappūr	Xinjiapo/ Singapore/ Singapura/Chiñkappūr	Chinese / English / Malay / Tamil	zh / en / ms / ta
SYR	Sūriyah	Dimashq	Arabic	ar
SOM	Aş Şūmāl / Soomaaliya	Muqdisho	Arabic / Somali	ar / so
LKA	Shrī Lañkā / Ilāñkai	Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte	Sinhala / Tamil	si / ta
ZAF	Suid-Afrika / South Africa / Sewula Africa / Afrika-Borwa / Afrika Borwa (st/tn) / Ningizimu Afrika (ss/zu) / Afrika Dzonga / Afurika Tshipembe / uMzantsi Afrika	Pretoria	Afrikaans / English / Ndebele / Pedi / Sesotho / Tswana / Swazi / Zulu / Tsonga / Venda / Xhosa	af / en / nd / ... / st / tn / ss / zu / ts / ve / xh
SDN	As Sūdān / Sudān	Al Khurṭūm	Arabic / English	ar / en
SSD	Yumhūriyyat as Janub Sūdān / Republic of South Sudan	Yuba	Arabic / English	ar / en
SWE	Sverige	Stockholm	Swedish	sv
CHE	Suisse (la) / Schweiz (die) / Svizzera (la) / Svizra (la)	Bern	French / German / Italian / Romansh	fr / de / it / rm
SUR	Suriname	Paramaribo	Dutch	nl
THA	Prathet Thai	Krung Thep	Thai	th
TZA	United Republic of Tanzania (the) / Tanzania	Dodoma	English / Swahili	en / sw
TJK	Тоҷикистон	Dushanbe	Tajik	tg
TLS	Timor-Leste / Timor Lorosa'e	Dili	Portuguese / Tetun	pt / ...
TGO	Togo (le)	Lomé	French	fr
TON	Tonga	Nuku'alofa	English / Tongan	en / to
TTO	Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain	English	en
TUN	Tūnis	Tūnis	Arabic	ar
TKM	Türkmenistan	Aşgabat	Turkmen	tk
TUR	Türkiye	Ankara	Turkish	tr
TUV	Tuvalu	Funafuti	English / Tuvaluan	en/...
UKR	Ukraina	Kyiv	Ukrainian	uk
UGA	Uganda	Kampala	English	en
URY	Uruguay (el)	Montevideo	Spanish	es

ISO3	COUNTRY Local name	CAPITAL Local name	ENDONYM LANGUAGE	ISO 639-1
UZB	O'zbekiston	Toshkent	Uzbek	uz
VUT	Vanuatu	Port Vila/ Port-Vila	Bislama / English / French	bi / en / fr
VEN	Venezuela (República Bolivariana de)	Caracas	Spanish	es
VNM	Việt Nam	Hà Nội	Vietnamese	vi
YEM	Al Yaman	Şan'a'	Arabic	ar
ZMB	Zambia	Lusaka	English	en
ZWE	Zimbabwe	Harare	English	en

## Explanation of the fields in the endonym table

### ISO3

ISO 3166-1 code. Codes that represent the names of countries and their subdivisions that include:

ISO\_3: three-letter code (*ISO 3166-1 alpha-2*)

### COUNTRY Local name

Endonym or local name of the country in its long form. Where names in more than one language coexist, only one language has been chosen (the first one in the ISO 639-1 code column).

### CAPITAL Local name

Endonym or local name for the capital city

### ENDONYM LANGUAGE

Name of the language in which the local name is standardised

### ISO 639-1

ISO 639-1 two-letter codes: Codes that represent the names of the languages. Left empty (...) when the language has no ISO code.

## 2.1. Differences in the names of countries and capitals used in the National Atlas of Spain (ANE) and those used by other official bodies

The designations used by the ANE are almost entirely consistent with those used by the **MAEC**. The few exceptions are due to the romanisation of certain spellings, such as the use of *w* instead of the traditional transcription to *u*, as seen in *Botswana/Botsuana*, *Rwanda/Ruanda*, *Zimbabwe/Zimbabue*, and those that keep the *j* or *dj* digraph of the endonym instead of transcribing it to *y*, such as *Fiji/Fiyi* and *Djibouti/Yibuti*. The first form, which is closer to the endonym, used by official international organisations in its Spanish version and the most commonly used spelling in cartography and the media, is the form standardised in the ANE. For its part, the MAEC uses the traditional Spanish form in the respective country files but also includes the more international form in the general entry list.

With respect to the **UNGEGN** designations, the discrepancies are due to the use of versions that are not habitually used in Spanish (the first form is the one used in the ANE):

- *Bielorrusia/Belarús*: reflects a desire to move away from earlier names (White Russia).
- *Costa de Marfil/Côte d'Ivoire*: the UNGEGN use of the French form as the name in Spanish reflects the wishes of the governments of these countries due to the alphabetical order. However, we maintain that they should not have a say in the Spanish form, which also implies a loss of geographical significance.
- *Kenia/Kenya*, *San Cristóbal y Nieves/Saint Kitts y Nevis*, *Surinam/Suriname*, *Timor Oriental/Timor Leste* and *Vietnam/Viet Nam*. For the Spanish names of these countries, the UNGEGN uses the English forms, not the ones used in Spanish.
- *Laos/Lao*. The plural form in Spanish comes from the French, who used it during the colonial era in Indochina.
- *Moldavia/Moldova* has a similar explanation to *Bielorrusia* in that the form preferred by the country itself seeks to move away from the old Soviet name.
- *Nueva Zelanda/Nueva Zelandia*: the first form is the most commonly used in Spain, while the second is common in American Spanish.
- *Palaos/Palau*: the traditional Spanish form, which is still in widespread use, rather than the English form used by the United Nations.
- *República Checa/Chequia*. The country shortened its name in 2016 and is listed by the UNGEGN with the short form in all official languages, but the former long form is used in Spain (*República Checa*).
- *Trinidad y Tobago/Trinidad y Tabago*: the historical Spanish form of *Tabago* was replaced in the late 19th century by the English *Tobago*. This form is the one used throughout the Spanish language. The Spanish word for tobacco (*tabaco*) originates from the name of the smoking utensil used in the islands: *Tobago*.

Finally, the **RAE**, an institution that standardises and promotes the unity of Spanish, includes the names of countries and capitals in its latest 2005 publication of its *Diccionario Panhispánico de Dudas* (Pan-Hispanic Dictionary of Doubts). Any discrepancies between those names and those standardised in the ANE are primarily due to spellings that have fallen out of use in official Spanish media but are maintained in the traditional Spanish forms compiled by the RAE (the first form is the one used in the ANE):

- Deletion of the *h*, interspersed or at the end of a syllable. *Bangladesh/Bangladés*, *Buthán/Bután*, *Lesotho/Lesoto*.
- Adding stress or accent to a syllable (atonic to tonic). *Bahrein/Bahréin*, *Belmopan/Belmopán*, *Benin/Benín*, *Hanoi/Hanói*.
- The same instances of adapting the name to Spanish spelling. *Botswana/Botsuana*, *Rwanda/Ruanda*, *Zimbabwe/Zimbabue*; *Abuja/Abuya*, *Djibouti/Yibuti*, *Fiji/Fiyi*; *Canberra/Camberra*, *Dushanbé/Dusambé*.

## NAMES OF COUNTRIES AND CAPITALS BY SOURCE

Country_ANE	Capital_ANE	Country_RAE (2010)	Capital_RAE (2010)	Country_MAE (2021)	Capital_MAE	Country_UNEGN	Capital_UNEGN
Afganistán	Kabul						
Albania	Tirana						
Alemania	Berlín						
Andorra	Andorra la Vella		Andorra la Vieja				Andorra la Vieja
Angola	Luanda						
Antigua y Barbuda	Saint John's		Saint John				
Arabia Saudí	Riad				Ar-Riyadh/Riad	Arabia Saudita	
Argelia	Argel						
Argentina	Buenos Aires						
Armenia	Ereván				Yereván		
Australia	Canberra		Camberra				
Austria	Viena						
Azerbaiyán	Bakú						
Bahamas	Nassau						
Bahrein	Manama	Bahréin					
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Bangladés	Dacca				
Barbados	Bridgetown						
Bélgica	Bruselas						
Belice	Belmopan		Belmopán				
Benin	Porto Novo	Benín					
Bhután	Timbu	Bután		Bután			
Bielorrusia	Minsk					Belarús	
Bolivia	Sucre						La Paz
Bosnia y Herzegovina	Sarajevo	Bosnia-Herzegovina					
Botswana	Gaborone	Botsuana		Botsuana			
Brasil	Brasília						
Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan	Brunéi Darussalam					
Darussalam	Sofía						
Bulgaria	Uagadugú						
Burkina Faso	Gitega		Buyumbura				Guitega
Burundi	Praia						
Cabo Verde	Phnom Penh						
Camboya							

Country_ANE	Capital_ANE	Country_RAE (2010)	Capital_RAE (2010)	Country_MAE (2021)	Capital_MAE	Country_UNEGN	Capital_UNEGN
Camerún	Yaundé						
Canadá	Ottawa						
Chad	Nyamena		Yamena		Yamena		
Chile	Santiago de Chile						Santiago
China	Beijing		Pekín		Pekín		
Chipre	Nicosia						
Ciudad del Vaticano	Ciudad del Vaticano						
Colombia	Bogotá						
Comoras	Moroni			Unión de Comoras			
Congo	Brazzaville						
Costa de Marfil	Yamusukro				Yamoussoukro	Côte d'Ivoire	
Costa Rica	San José						
Croacia	Zagreb						
Cuba	La Habana						
Dinamarca	Copenhague						
Djibouti	Djibouti	Yibuti	Yibuti	Yibuti	Yibuti		
Dominica	Roseau						
Ecuador	Quito						
Egipto	El Cairo						
El Salvador	San Salvador						
Emiratos Árabes Unidos	Abu Dhabi						
Eritrea	Asmara						
Eslovaquia	Bratislava						
Eslovenia	Liubliana						
España	Madrid						
Estados Unidos de América	Washington, D.C.						
Estonia	Tallin						
Eswatini	Mbabane	Suazilandia	Mbabane y Lobamba	Esuatini			
Etiopía	Addis Abeba		Adís Abeba				
Federación de Rusia	Moscú	Rusia					
Fiji	Suva	Fiyi		Fiyi			
Filipinas	Manila				Ciudad de Manila		
Finlandia	Helsinki						
Francia	París						
Gabón	Libreville						
Gambia	Banjul						
Georgia	Tiflis				Tbilisi/Tiflis		Tbilisi Tiflis
Ghana	Accra						
Granada	Saint George's		Saint George				
Grecia	Atenas						
Guatemala	Ciudad de Guatemala						
Guinea	Conakry						
Guinea Bissau	Bissau	Guinea-Bissau					
Guinea Ecuatorial	Malabo						
Guyana	Georgetown						
Haití	Puerto Príncipe						
Honduras	Tegucigalpa						
Hungría	Budapest						
India	Nueva Delhi						
Indonesia	Yakarta						
Irán	Teherán						
Iraq	Bagdad						
Irlanda	Dublín						
Islandia	Reikiavik						
Islas Marshall	Majuro						
Islas Salomón	Honiara						
Israel							
Italia	Roma						

Country_ANE	Capital_ANE	Country_RAE (2010)	Capital_RAE (2010)	Country_MAE (2021)	Capital_MAE	Country_UNEGN	Capital_UNEGN
Jamaica	Kingston						
Japón	Tokio						
Jordania	Ammán						
Kazajistán	Nur-Sultán	Kazajistán	Astaná		Nur-Sultan	Nur-Sultan	
Kenia	Nairobi					Kenya	
Kirguistán	Bishkek						
Kiribati	Tarawa Sur		Bairiki		Tarawa Sur		Tarawa Sur
Kuwait	Kuwait						
Laos	Vientiane		Vientián			República Democrática Popular Lao	
Lesoto	Maseru	Lesoto					
Letonia	Riga						
Líbano	Beirut						
Liberia	Monrovia						
Libia	Trípoli						
Liechtenstein	Vaduz						
Lituania	Vilnius		Vilna				
Luxemburgo	Luxemburgo						
Macedonia del Norte	Skopie	Macedonia			Skopje		
Madagascar	Antananarivo						
Malasia	Kuala Lumpur						
Malawi	Lilongwe	Malawi	Lilongüe		Lilongüe		
Maldivas	Malé						
Mali	Bamako					Malí	
Malta	La Valeta						La Valetta
Marruecos	Rabat						
Mauricio	Port Louis		Port-Louis				
Mauritania	Nuakchot						
México	Ciudad de México		México D. F.				
Micronesia	Palikir						
Moldavia	Chisinau					República de Moldova	
Mónaco	Mónaco						
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar		Ulán Bator		Ulan Bator		
Montenegro	Podgorica	Serbia y Montenegro	no				
Mozambique	Maputo						
Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw	Birmania	Rangún		Naypidó (Nay Pyi Taw)		
Namibia	Windhoek						
Nauru	Yaren						
Nepal	Katmandú						
Nicaragua	Managua						
Níger	Niamey						
Nigeria	Abuja		Abuya				
Noruega	Oslo						
Nueva Zelanda	Wellington						
Omán	Mascate						
Países Bajos	Ámsterdam						
Pakistán	Islamabad						
Palaos	Ngerulmud		Koror		Ngerulmud	Palau	Ngerulmud
Palestina		no	no				
Panamá	Ciudad de Panamá		Panamá				Panamá
Papúa Nueva Guinea	Port Moresby						Papua Nueva Guinea
Paraguay	Asunción						
Perú	Lima						
Polonia	Varsovia						
Portugal	Lisboa						
Qatar	Doha			Catar			
Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte	Londres						
República Centroafricana	Bangui						



Country_ANE	Capital_ANE	Country_RAE (2010)	Capital_RAE (2010)	Country_MAE (2021)	Capital_MAE	Country_UNEGN	Capital_UNEGN
República Checa	Praga					Chequia	
República de Corea	Seúl	Corea del Sur		Corea del Sur			
República Democrática del Congo	Kinshasa						
República Dominicana	Santo Domingo					Dominicana	
República Popular Democrática de Corea	Pyongyang	Corea* del Norte					
Rumania	Bucarest						
Rwanda	Kigali	Ruanda		Ruanda			
Samoa	Apia						
San Cristóbal y Nieves	Basseterre					Saint Kitts y Nevis	
San Marino	San Marino						
San Vicente y las Granadinas	Kingstown						
Santa Lucía	Castries						
Santo Tomé y Príncipe	Santo Tomé						
Senegal	Dakar						
Serbia	Belgrado	Serbia y Montenegro					
Seychelles	Victoria						
Sierra Leona	Freetown						
Singapur	Singapur						
Siria	Damasco					República Árabe Siria	
Somalia	Mogadiscio						
Sri Lanka	Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte		Colombo		Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte		Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte
Sudáfrica	Pretoria						
Sudán	Jartum						
Sudán del Sur	Yuba	no	no				
Suecia	Estocolmo						
Suiza	Berna						
Surinam	Paramaribo					Suriname	
Tailandia	Bangkok						
Tanzania	Dodoma					República Unida de Tanzania	
Tayikistán	Dushanbé		Dusambé				
Timor Oriental	Dili					Timor-Leste	
Togo	Lomé						
Tonga	Nuku'alofa						
Trinidad y Tobago	Puerto España					Trinidad y Tabago	
Túnez	Túnez						
Turkmenistán	Ashgabat		Asjabad		Ashjabad		
Turquía	Ankara						
Tuvalu	Vaiaku						Fongafale
Ucrania	Kiev						
Uganda	Kampala						
Uruguay	Montevideo						
Uzbekistán	Tashkent		Taskent				
Vanuatu	Port Vila						
Venezuela	Caracas						
Vietnam	Hanoi		Hanói			Viet Nam	
Yemen	Sana		Saná		Saná		
Zambia	Lusaka						
Zimbabue	Harare	Zimbabue					

## 2. 2. Gender of countries and cities

The gender of countries and cities depends on the ending of their name, with some exceptions.

➤ gender of countries:

- ending in -a without an accent ► female gender

*Alemania es atractiva*

- ending in a tonic -a, consonant or other vowels ► male gender

*Canadá es tranquilo*

*Japón es moderno*

➤ gender of cities:

- ending in a tonic -a ► female gender

*Bogotá es bonita*

*Panamá es bonita*

- ending in another vowel or consonant ► male gender

*Bristol es lluvioso*

*Guayaquil es bullicioso*

The male gender of cities is less fixed, as the feminine gender of the noun “city” sometimes influences the gender applied to the city’s name.

*París es bonito*

*París es bonita*

## 2. 3. Article usage in the names of countries and cities

In Spanish, there is no rule on the use of the article before the names of countries and cities. Generally speaking, it depends on tradition, the personal opinion of the speaker or on the sentence in which the name is found. E.g., *Alemania es muy grande, la Alemania de posguerra fue valiente; Estados Unidos es muy diferente, los Estados Unidos figuran en buena posición; China está avanzando, la China comunista; Venezuela es diferente, la Venezuela de Chávez; Venecia es única; la Venecia de los canales es insólita.*

When the official long name of a country contains an article, which usually forms a contraction with the preposition, the standard practice is to keep the article when mentioning the short form in a sentence. E.g., *República del Uruguay*, *República del Congo* and *Unión de las Comoras*, which retain the article in the short form: *el Uruguay*, *el Congo* and *las Comoras*. However, for countries whose long names do not have an article, such as *Reino de Bélgica*, *Reino de España* and *República de Chile*, the article is not used in the short form: *Bélgica*, *España* and *Chile*.

### 3. Spanish exonyms for country capitals

Spanish has numerous exonyms for capital cities, and their usage is as standardised as the names of countries. We also include names that differ in accentuation only, although, strictly speaking, they may not be considered exonyms.

In Spanish, the use of exonyms for country capitals is widespread in all spheres. Names that vary in accentuation only, with more variable usage, are marked [in blue](#).

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
ET	ETH	Addis Abeba	Addis Abeba/Addis Ababa
JO	JOR	Ammán	‘Ammān
NL	NLD	<a href="#">Ámsterdam</a>	<a href="#">Amsterdam</a>
DZ	DZA	Argel	Al Jazā’ir
TM	TKM	Ashgabat	Aşgabat
ER	ERI	Asmara	Asmarah/Asmera
GR	GRC	Atenas	Athína
IQ	IRQ	Bagdad	Baghdād
AZ	AZE	Bakú	Bakı
TH	THA	Bangkok	Krung Thep
LB	LBN	Beirut	Bayrūt
RS	SRB	Belgrado	Beograd
DE	DEU	<a href="#">Berlín</a>	<a href="#">Berlin</a>
CH	CHE	Berna	Bern
KG	KGZ	Bishkek	Bishkek/Biшкеk
BE	BEL	Bruselas	Brussel/Bruxelles
RO	ROU	Bucarest	Bucureşti
AR	ARG	Buenos Aires	Ciudad de Buenos Aires
MD	MDA	Chisinau	Kishinev
PA	PAN	Ciudad de Panamá	Panamá
VA	VAT	Ciudad del Vaticano	Civitatis Vaticanæ/Città del Vaticano

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
DK	DNK	Copenhague	København
SY	SYR	Damasco	Dimashq
BD	BGD	Dhaka	Ḍhākā
DJ	DJI	Djibouti	Jībūtī/Djibouti
QA	QAT	Doha	Ad Dawḥah
IE	IRL	Dublín	Dublin/Baile Átha Cliath
TJ	TJK	Dushanbé	Dushanbe
EG	EGY	El Cairo	Al Qāhirah
AM	ARM	Ereván	Yerevan
SE	SWE	Estocolmo	Stockholm
VN	VNM	Hanoi	Hà Nội
FI	FIN	Helsinki	Helsinki/Helsingfors
PK	PAK	Islamabad	Islamabad/Islāmābād
SD	SDN	Jartum	Al Khurṭūm
AF	AFG	Kabul	Kābul
NP	NPL	Katmandú	Kāṭhmāḍaum
UA	UKR	Kiev	Kyiv
KW	KWT	Kuwait	Al Kuwayt
MT	MLT	La Valeta	Valletta/Valleta
SI	SVN	Liubliana	Ljubljana
GB	GBR	Londres	London
LU	LUX	Luxemburgo	Luxembourg/Luxemburg/Lëtzebuerg
MV	MDV	Malé	Maale
BH	BHR	Manama	Al Manāmah
PH	PHL	Manila	Manila/Maynila
OM	OMN	Mascate	Masqaṭ
SO	SOM	Mogadiscio	Muqdisho
MC	MCO	Mónaco	Monaco
RU	RUS	Moscú	Moskva
CY	CYP	Nicosia	Lefkosia/Lefkoşa
MR	MRT	Nuakchot	Nawākshūt
IN	IND	Nueva Delhi	Naī Dillī
TD	TCD	Nyamena	N'Djamena
FR	FRA	París	Paris
KH	KHM	Phnom Penh	Phnum Pénh
VU	VUT	Port Vila	Port Vila/Port-Vila
CZ	CZE	Praga	Praha
TT	TTO	Puerto España	Port of Spain

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
HT	HTI	Puerto Príncipe	Port-au-Prince
KP	PRK	Pyongyang	Phyŏngyang
MA	MAR	Rabat	Ar Ribāṭ
IS	ISL	Reikiavík	Reykjavík
SA	SAU	Riad	Ar Riyāḍ
LV	LVA	Rīga	Rīga
YE	YEM	Sana	Ṣan‘ā’
CL	CHL	Santiago de Chile	Santiago
ST	STP	Santo Tomé	São Tomé
KR	KOR	Seúl	Seoul
SG	SGP	Singapur	Xinjiapo/Singapore/Singapura/Chin̄ka-ppūr
MK	MKD	Skopje	Skopje
BG	BGR	Sofía	Sofia
EE	EST	Tallin	Tallinn
UZ	UZB	Tashkent	Toshkent
IR	IRN	Teherán	Tehrān
GE	GEO	Tiflis	T’bilisi
BT	BTN	Timbu	Thimphu
AL	ALB	Tirana	Tiranë
JP	JPN	Tokio	Tokyo
LY	LBY	Trípoli	Ṭarābulus
TN	TUN	Túnez	Tūnis
BF	BFA	Uagadugú	Ouagadougou
PL	POL	Varsovia	Warszawa
AT	AUT	Viena	Wien
LA	LAO	Vientiane	Viangchan
US	USA	Washington, D.C.	Washington
ID	IDN	Yakarta	Jakarta
CI	CIV	Yamusukro	Yamoussoukro
CM	CMR	Yaundé	Yaoundé

## 4. Spanish exonyms for cities

Beyond the European continent, the country with the most Spanish exonyms for its cities is the Philippines, for evident historical reasons. Names that differ only in accentuation are also included, although, strictly speaking, they may not be considered exonyms.

Names that coexist in current usage, with the use of the endonym or exonym varying depending on the context, are marked **in red**. Exonyms that vary in accentuation only, with more variable usage, are marked **in blue**.

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
IR	IRN	Abadán	Abadan
CI	CIV	Abiyán	Abidjan
AU	AUS	Adelaida	Adelaide
AE	ARE	Al Ain	Al-Ayn
EG	EGY	Alejadría	Al Iskandariya
SY	SYR	Alepo	Aleppo
KZ	KAZ	Almatý	Almaty
BE	BEL	Amberes	Antwerpen
TR	TUR	Antioquía	Antakya
DE	DEU	Aquisgrán	Aachen
RU	RUS	Astracán	Astrahan'
DE	DEU	Augsburgo	Augsburg
PH	PHL	Bacólod	Bacolod
IN	IND	Bangalore	Bengaluru
CH	CHE	Basilea	Basel/ Bâle
IQ	IRQ	Basora	Al-Basrah
IN	IND	Benarés	Varanasi
LY	LBY	Bengasi	Banghāzī
IT	ITA	Bérgamo	Bergamo
IT	ITA	Bolonia	Bologna
IN	IND	Bombay	Mumbai
PL	POL	Breslavia	Wrocław
BE	BEL	Brujas	Brugge
DE	DEU	Brunswick	Braunschweig
FR	FRA	Burdeos	Bordeaux
PH	PHL	Butuán	Butuan
PH	PHL	Cabanatúan	Cabanatuan



ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
PH	PHL	Cádiz	Cadiz
PH	PHL	Cagayán de Oro	Cagayan de Oro
IN	IND	Calcuta	Kolkata
CN	CHN	Cantón	Guangzhou
PH	PHL	Cebú	Cebu
ZA	ZAF	Ciudad del Cabo	Cape Town, Kaapstad, iKapa
PH	PHL	Ciudad Quezón	Quezon City
DE	DEU	Coblenza	Koblenz
IN	IND	Cochín	Kochi
JP	JPN	Cochín	Kochi
DE	DEU	Colonia	Köln
DZ	DZA	Constantina	Qusanṭīnah
RO	ROU	Constanza	Constanța
GR	GRC	Corfú	Kérkyra
PL	POL	Cracovia	Kraków
PH	PHL	Dávao	Davao
AE	ARE	Dubái	Dubai
GB	GBR	Edimburgo	Edinburgh
RU	RUS	Ekaterimburgo	Ekaterinburg
GR	GRC	El Pireo	Peiraias
TR	TUR	Esmirna	İzmir
GR	GRC	Esparta	Spárti
TR	TUR	Estambul	İstanbul
FR	FRA	Estrasburgo	Strasbourg
MA	MAR	Fez	Fès
US	USA	Filadelfia	Philadelphia
IT	ITA	Florenia	Firenze
DE	DEU	Friburgo de Brisgovia	Freiburg im Breisgau
AE	ARE	Fujairah	Al Fujayrah
BE	BEL	Gante	Gent
AZ	AZE	Ganyá	Ganja
IT	ITA	Génova	Genova
CH	CHE	Ginebra	Genève
IR	IRN	Gorgán	Gorgan
SE	SWE	Gotemburgo	Göteborg
IL	ISR	Haifa	Hefa
IR	IRN	Hamadán	Hamadan

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
DE	DEU	Hamburgo	Hamburg
PS	PSE	Hebrón	al-Khalil
GR	GRC	Heraclión	Iraklio
US	USA	Honolulú	Honolulu
PH	PHL	Iloílo	Iloilo City
US	USA	Indianápolis	Indianapolis
IR	IRN	Isfahán	Isfahan
UA	UKR	Járkiv	Kharkiv
		Jerusalén	Yerushalayim / al-Quds
ZA	ZAF	Johannesburgo	Johannesburg
PH	PHL	Kabankalán	Kabankalan
RU	RUS	Kaliningrado	Kaliningrad
KZ	KAZ	Karagandá	Karaganda
IR	IRN	Kermán	Kerman
JP	JPN	Kioto	Kyoto
NL	NLD	La Haya	's-Gravenhage/ Den Haag
SA	SAU	La Meca	Makkah
CY	CYP	Lemesos	Limasol
BE	BEL	Lieja	Liège
US	USA	Los Ángeles	Los Angeles
CH	CHE	Lucerna	Luzern
CN	CHN	Macao	Macau
IN	IND	Madrás	Kadapa
DE	DEU	Maguncia	Mainz
FR	FRA	Marsella	Marseille
ZA	ZAF	Middelburgo	Middelburg
IT	ITA	Milán	Milano
LY	LBY	Misurata	Miṣrātah
IT	ITA	Módena	Modena
PK	PAK	Multán	Multan
DE	DEU	Munich	München
PS	PSE	Nablus	Nābulus
AZ	AZE	Najicheván	Nakhchivan
CN	CHN	Nankín	Nanjing
IT	ITA	Nápoles	Napoli
IL	ISR	Nazaret	Nazerat
CN	CHN	Ningbó	Ningbo

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
FR	FRA	Niza	Nice
US	USA	Nueva Orleans	New Orleans
US	USA	Nueva York	New York
DE	DEU	Núremberg	Nürnberg
SD	SDN	Omdurman	Umm Durmān
PT	PRT	Oporto	Porto
DZ	DZA	Orán	Wahrān
IT	ITA	Padua	Padova
PH	PHL	Pagadían	Pagadian
PH	PHL	Pásig	Pasig
CZ	CZE	Pilsen	Plzeň
EG	EGY	Port Said/Puerto Said	Būr Saʿīd
SD	SDN	Puerto Sudán	Būr Sūdān
IR	IRN	Qazvín	Qazvin
PS	PSE	Ramala	Rām Allāh
AE	ARE	Ras Al Khaimah	Ras al Khaymah
DE	DEU	Ratisbona	Regensburg
IT	ITA	Rávena	Ravenna
NL	NLD	Róterdam	Rotterdam
AT	AUT	Salzburgo	Salzburg
UZ	UZB	Samarcanda	Samarqand
US	USA	San José	San Jose
RU	RUS	San Petersburgo	Sankt-Peterburg
US	USA	Santa María	Santa Maria
IR	IRN	Sarí	Sari
UA	UKR	Sebastopol	Sevastopol
IR	IRN	Semnán	Semnan
CN	CHN	Shanghái	Shanghai
LB	LBN	Sidón	Şaydā
PH	PHL	Sorsogón	Sorsogon
EG	EGY	Suez	As Suways
AZ	AZE	Sumgait	Sumqayıt
SA	SAU	Tabük	Tabuk
PH	PHL	Talísay	Talisay
MA	MAR	Tánger	Tanger
IT	ITA	Tarento	Taranto
PH	PHL	Taúm	Tagum

ISO_2	ISO_3	Spanish exonym	Endonym
GR	GRC	Tesalónica	Thessaloníki
MA	MAR	Tetuán	Tétouan
ML	MLI	Tombuctú	Tombouctou
LB	LBN	Trípoli	Ṭarābulus
IT	ITA	Turín	Torino
KZ	KAZ	Turquestán	Turkestan
IR	IRN	Urmía	Urmia
IT	ITA	Venecia	Venezia
RU	RUS	Volgogrado	Volgograd
MM	MMR	Yangón	Yangon
SA	SAU	Yeda	Jiddah
IR	IRN	Zahedán	Zahedan
TZ	TZA	Zanzíbar	Zanzibar
CH	CHE	Zúrich	Zürich

## 5. Spanish exonyms for regions

The regions are geographical spaces with physical and human characteristics that individualise and distinguish them from their surroundings.

In this section, we refer to regions that are related to human factors, such as populations or cultural, historical or linguistic traits.

Therefore, phytoclimatic regions that have generic names indicating the type of geographical feature (plains, deserts, tundra, savannahs, swamps, marshlands, etc.) are not included. Also not excluded are peninsula names, which are sometimes counted as regions in other studies on exonyms, such as *Jutlandia* or *Indochina*.

Sometimes regions are converted into administrative units to facilitate their management, which is why many of the regions included in this section are now administrative units: departments, counties, countries forming a kingdom, provinces, etc.

They are commonly used in tourism and geographical spatial descriptions, while their presence in general cartography is more limited.

Most of the exonyms for regions refer to places found on the European continent, the most numerous in France, followed by Germany, Greece, and to a lesser extent, Italy.

## 5. 1. European regions

### Regions of France

Spanish has numerous exonyms for the French regions, many of which are now administrative units (Regions and Departments).

Spanish exonym	Endonym
Aquitania	Aquitaine
Auvernia	Auvergne
Aviñón	Avignon
Azul, Costa	Côte d'Azur
Bolonés	Boulonnais
Borgoña	Bourgogne
Bretaña	Bretagne
Cerdaña	Cerdagne
Champaña	Champagne
Charenta	Charente
Costa de Oro	Côte d'Or
Delfinado	Dauphiné
Finisterre	Finistère
Franco Condado	Franche-Comté
Gascuña	Gascogne
Isla de Francia	Île-de-France
Landas	Landes
Lemosín	Limousin
Lorena	Lorraine
Maconés	Maconnais
Normadía	Normandie
Occitania	Occitanie
Provenza	Provence
Rosellón	Roussillon
Saboya	Savoie
Soloña	Sologne
Vandea	Vendée

There are also exonyms for French regions that have fallen into disuse.

Historic exonym	Endonym
Argona	Argonne
Bearne	Bearn
Borbonesado	Bourbonnais
Bordelesado	Bordelais
Cartuja	Chartreuse
Guyena	Guyenne
Leonesado/Lyonesado	Lyonnais
Marca	Marche
Nivernesado	Nivernais
Noyonesado	Noyonnais
Orleanesado	Orléannais
Picardía	Picardie
Turena	Touraine
Venesino	Venaissin
Vienesado	Viennois

### Regions of Germany

After the French regions, Germany is the country on the European continent to have the most Spanish names for its regions.

Spanish exonym	Endonym
Baviera	Bayern
Brisgovia	Breisgau
Franconia	Franken
Hesse	Hessen
Lauenburgo	Lauenburg
Lusacia	Lausitz
Mecklemburgo	Mecklenburg
Misnia	Meissen
Palatinado	Pfalz
Prusia	Preussen
Renania	Rheinland



Spanish exonym	Endonym
Sajonia	Sachsen
Schaumburgo	Schaumburg
Schwarzburgo	Schwarzburg
Selva Negra	Schwarzwald
Suabia	Schwaben
Turingia	Thüringen
Veteravia	Wetterau
Westfalia/Vestfalia	Westfalen

### Regions of Greece

As we have seen when examining other geographical entities, exonyms from the Greek language tend to use standardised romanised spellings, which means the exonym and the transliterated endonym frequently coexist in Spanish language contexts.

The endonyms often have various forms and romanisations, depending on whether they come from classical or modern Greek.

Spanish exonym	Endonym
Acaya	Ajaia/Achaia
Argólida	Argolis/Argolida
Ática	Attikis
Beocia	Viotia
Calcídica	Jalkidki
Fócida	Fokis/Fokida
Ftiótide	Phthiōtis/Fthiótida
Icaria	Ikaria
Laconia	Lakonía
Macedonia	Makedonía
Peloponeso	Peloponisos

Some exonyms pertain to regions that no longer exist: *Arcadia*, *Neopatria*, *Acarnania*.

## Regions of Italy

Italy ranks fourth in terms of the number of Spanish exonyms for its regions.

Spanish exonym	Endonym
Abruzos	Abruzzi
Apulia/Pulla	Puglia
Friul	Friuli
Lacio	Lazio
Marcas	Marche
Piamonte	Piemonte
Romaña	Romagna
Valtelina	Valtellina

Some names refer to territories related to a city rather than a region: *Genovesado*, *Milanesado*, *Paduano* (*Génova*, *Milán*, *Padua*).

## Regions of other European countries

The names of historical regions that have become sovereign states are not included. The names of regions that coincide with administrative units (states, cantons, provinces, etc.) are listed.

However, not all the corresponding endonyms are listed because, in some cases, there are multiple forms in the different languages that share these geographical spaces.

Exonym	Endonym	Localisation
Argovia	Aargau	Switzerland
Balcanes		Balkan countries
Bohemia		Czechia
Brabante	Brabant	Belgium
Carelia	Karjala	Northern Europe
Carintia	Kärnten	Austria
Carso / Meseta del Kras	Kras	Slovenia
Cornualles	Cornwall	United Kingdom
Crimea	Krim	Ukraine
Dalecarlia	Dalarna	Sweden
Dalmacia	Dalmacija	Croatia

Exonym	Endonym	Localisation
Engadina / Engandina	Engadin	Switzerland
Escandinavia		Northern Europe
Escania	Skåne	Sweden
Escocia	Scotland	United Kingdom
Estiria	Steiermark	Austria
Flandes	Vlaanderen	Belgium
Frisia	Friesland	Netherlands
Gales	Gymru	United Kingdom
Glaris	Glarus	Switzerland
Grisones	Graubünden	Switzerland
Güeldres	Gelderland	Netherlands
Henao	Hainaut	Belgium
Laponia	Lapi	
Limburgo	Limbourg	Netherlands
Masuria / Mazuria		North-eastern Europe
Moravia	Morava	Czechia
Muntenia / Alta Valaquia	Țara Românească/Valahia	Romania
Northumbria		United Kingdom
Rutenia		Ukraine
Siberia	Sibir	Russian Federation
Silesia / Sileca	Slask	Poland, Czechia, Germany
Soleura	Solothurn	Switzerland
Transilvania	Ardeal	Romania
Turgovia	Thurgau	Switzerland
Valès	Valais	Switzerland
Volinia	Volyn	Ukraine
Zelanda	Zeeland	Netherlands

Many names are no longer in use because they refer to historical regions that have disappeared.

Exonym	Endonym	Localisation
Banato		South-eastern Europe
Besarabia		Romania, Ukraine y Republic of Moldova
Bucovina		Eastern Europe

Exonym	Endonym	Localisation
Carniola	Kralin	Yugoslavia
Circasia		Russian Federation
Cumania		Europe / Asia
Esclavonia	Slavonija	Yugoslavia
Eslavonia	Slavonija	Yugoslavia
Galitzia	Halicz	Poland / Ukraine
Ingria		
Livonia		Estonia, Latvia
Lotaringia		Central Europe
Masovia / Mazovia		Poland
Morlaquia		Croatia
Moscovia		Russian Federation
Oltenia / Pequeña Valaquia		Romania
Podolia		Eastern Europe
Polesia		Eastern Europe
Pomerania	Pomorze	Poland, Germany
Posnania / Poznan	Poznanskie	Poland
Rumelia		The Balkans
Samogicia/Samogitia		Lithuania

## 5. 2. Regions of other continents

Disregarding exonyms for phytoclimatic regions, traditional names for human and cultural regions in other continents are scarce.

In Africa, the names *Cirenaicia* (*Barga*), *Tripolitania* (*Trabulus*), and *Nubia* remain in use, while *Berberia* is no longer in use.

Some regions of Asia also have Spanish exonyms: *Beluchistán*, *Cachemira*, *Capadocia*, *Mesopotamia*, *Mongolia*, *Siberia*, *Tibet*, *Turquestán*. Others have clearly fallen into disuse, such as *Cochinchina*, in present-day Vietnam; *Malacca* and *Malaya*, referring to the peninsular part of present-day Malaysia; and *Tonquín* or *Tonkín*, referring to the Red River Delta in Vietnam.

## 6. Spanish exonyms for rivers

Spanish exonyms for watercourses are generally reserved for the major rivers on the different continents. Exonyms for more minor watercourses usually refer to rivers in

Portugal and France. While it is common for the same river to have several names along its course, in Spanish, it is known by the name of the longest stretch.

The *Endonym* column also lists the names of the river branches after the name of the main river. If the endonym is unknown, it is left empty. The international name is included as an endonym when it is difficult to reflect all the coexisting forms in local languages, as in the case of the *Nilo* (River Nile).

As we have already mentioned for other entities, Spanish forms that come from standardised transliterations, such as the *río Volga*, are not included.

Exonym	Endonym
Adigio	Adige
Alolya	Velikaya
Amarillo	Huang
Amazonas	Amazonas/Apurímac/Ene/Solimões/Tambo/Ucayali
Bassac	Basak / Hậu Giang
Benito	Mbini
Brazo Menor del Río Araguaia	Braço Menor do Araguaia
Bug	Bug/Zakhidnyy Buh/Zakhodni Buh
Bug Meridional	Pivdenny Buh
Dang	Dam
Danubio	Donau/Dunărea/Dunav
Dniéper	Dnepr/Dnyapro/Dnipro/
Dniester	Dnister/Nistru
Duero	Duero/Douro
Dvina Septentrional	Sévernaya Dviná
Dviná Occidental	Daugava/Západnaya Dviná/Zajódniaya Dzviná
Elba	Elbe/Labe
Escalda	Escaut/Escô/Schelde
Éufrates	Al-Furāt/Firat
Ganges	Gáṅgā/Padma
Garona	Garonne
Gran Morava	Velika Morava
Gran Ruaha	Great Ruaha
Gran Yeniséi	Bol'shoy Yenisey
Halys	Kizilirmak
Indo	Indus
Irrawaddy	Ayeyarwadi
Irtish	Ertis
Ishim	Ishim/Esil

Exonym	Endonym
Jordán	Nehar HaYarden/Nahr al-Urdunn
Kerulen	Herlen
Kwai	Kwai Yai
Loira	Loire
Mekong	Mékōngk/Lancang/Khong/Mênam
Moldava	Vltava
Mosa	Maas/Meuse
Mosela	Mosel/Moselle
Mosela	Moselle/Musel
Negro	Da
Neris	Вілія
Ness	Abhainn Nis
Neva	Нева́
Niemen	Nemunas/Неман
Nilo	Nile
Nilo Azul	Blue Nile
Nilo Blanco	White Nile
Obi	Ob'
Oder	Odra
Pequeño Yenisei	Mali Yenisey
Rin	Rhein/Waal
Ródano	Rhône
Rojo	Hồng/Red/Yuan
Salween	Nù Jiāng/Thanlwin
San Lorenzo	St. Lawrence
Sangkae	Sāngkê
Selenga	Selenge
Sena	Seine
Senggé	Sēnggê
Sosva Septentrional	Severnaya Sos'va
Taimura del Norte	Sévernaya Taimura
Tajo	Tejo
Támesis	Thames
Thjorsa	Þjórsá
Tíber	Tevere
Tien	Tièn
Tigris	Dijlah / Dicle
Tonle Sap	Tônle Sab

Exonym	Endonym
Tunguska Inferior	Nizhnyaya Tunguska
Tunguska Pedregoso	Podkámennaya Tunguska
Ural	Zhayyq
Usa	Usa/Malaya Usa
Vístula	Wisla
Volta Blanco	White Volta/Nakanbé
Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhoun
Yangtsé	Chang Jiang
Yangtsé	Jinsha

## 7. Spanish exonyms for features of the relief

Spanish has exonyms for major mountain ranges, predominantly those in Europe.

### 7. 1. Exonyms for the relief in Europe

Exonym	Continent
Alpes Berneses	Europe
Alpes Cárnicos	Europe
Alpes Cocios	Europe
Alpes Dináricos	Europe
Alpes Julianos	Europe
Alpes Nóricos	Europe
Alpes Réticos	Europe
Apeninos	Europe
Beskides	Europe
Cárpato	Europe
Cárpato Meridionales/ Alpes de Transilvania	Europe
Cevenas	Europe
Colinas Euganeas	Europe
Dolomitas	Europe
Estanovoi	Europe
Montes Cámbricos	Europe
Montes Escandinavos	Europe

Exonym	Continent
Montes Gigantes	Europe
Montes Grampianos	Europe
Montes Metálicos	Europe
Montes Ródope	Europe
Montes Tatra	Europe
Parnaso	Europe
Peninos	Europe
Pentelico	Europe
Pindo	Europe
San Gotardo	Europe
Selva Negra	Europe
Sudetes	Europe
Taigeto	Europe
Termópilas	Europe
Teutoburgo / Teutónico	Europe
Urales	Europe
Vesubio	Europe
Vosgos	Europe
Montes Pónticos	Europe / Asia

## 7. 2. Exonyms for the relief in other continents

Exonym	Continent
Alto Atlas	Africa
Anti Atlas	Africa
Atlas Medio	Africa
Atlas Sahariano	Africa
Atlas Telliano	Africa
Macizo Etíope	Africa
Cordillera Aleutiana	Northern America
Cordillera de las Cascadas	Northern America
Montañas Costeras	Northern America
Montañas Rocosas	Northern America
Montañas Verdes	Northern America



Exonym	Continent
Montes Apalaches	Northern America
Valle de la Muerte	Northern America
Cordillera los Menucos / Montes Shackleton	Antarctica
Montañas Reina Maud	Antarctica
Antitauro	Asia
Cáucaso	Asia
Montes Elburz	Asia
Montes Taurus	Asia
Pequeño Cáucaso	Asia
Pequeño Cáucaso / Cáucaso Menor	Asia

There are few exonyms in Spanish for peaks or altitudes because the most widely and internationally recognised name tends to be used, which may be the endonym or the most widespread form customarily used in a European colonial language (French, English or German).

## 8. Spanish exonyms for islands

Spain's history of colonisation and the discoveries made by explorers in the service of the Spanish crown explain the numerous Spanish names for islands in the Pacific Ocean: *Islas Carolinas*, *Islas Fénix*, *Islas Marianas*, *Islas Marquesas*, *Islas Galápagos*, *Archipiélago de Tierra de Fuego*, *Archipiélago de Juan Fernández*, *Archipiélago de Revillagigedo*, *Islas Salomón* (the name given by the explorer Mendaña in allusion to the islands' wealth of spices and gold). These names are considered exonyms because they differ from those used by the local people in their native language or English, the most well-established and widely used language.

Island names in familiar languages (French, Portuguese, English, Italian) tend to remain in their original language or take a form closer to the endonym. Such is the case of *Madeira*, *Jan Mayen*, *São Pedro* and *São Paulo*, which are used in place of their traditional historical names: *Madera*, *Juan Mayen*, *San Pedro* and *San Pablo*. There are exceptions to this rule; the *Islas Mascareñas*, for example, retain the Spanish form despite owing their name to the Portuguese explorer Pedro de Mascarenhas, as do the *Islas de la Decepción*, so-called for the name assigned to them by their English discoverer, the *Disappointment Islands*.

Endonyms and exonyms frequently coexist, especially when the spelling of the endonym is challenging the Spanish speakers, as in *Azores* (*Açores*), *Curazao* (*Curaçao*).

With regard to the Greek islands, the changes are due to the increasing use of Greek endonyms transliterated using the current standardised systems, but as we have already explained, these names should not be considered exonyms. On the other hand, many traditional exonyms from earlier romanisations remain in widespread use: *Cícladas*, *Corfú*, *Creta*.



Island exonyms



Island toponyms

## 9. Spanish exonyms for coastal and maritime features

Exonyms for coastal and oceanic features are scarce. Worth mentioning are those which derive from a specific term related to a cardinal point, often in English, such as *Cabo*

*Norte* (*Nordkappplatået* in Norwegian), *Cabo Noroeste* (North West Cape in English), *Cabo Sudeste* (South East Cape in English), *Cabo Sudoeste* (South West Cape in English), *Punta del Este*, *Punta Norte*, *Mar del Norte*, *Mar del Este* (*Mar del Japón*).

Portuguese names are also frequently translated into Spanish due to the proximity of the language and the ease of comprehension, e.g., *Cabo de Buena Esperanza* (*Cabo da Boa Esperança*), *Cabo de las Agujas* (*Cabo das Agulhas* in Portuguese), *Cabo de San Vicente* (*Cabo de São Vicente* in Portuguese).

Some names are used because of the ease with which they can be translated, such as *Cabo Capricornio* (Cape Capricorn in English), *Punta Concepción* (Point Conception in English), *Cabo Blanco* (from the French *Cap Blanc*, *Ras Nouadhibou* in Arabic), *Punta Negra*, *Bahía Blanca*, *Mar Blanco*, *Mar Negro*, *Mar Rojo*, *Mar Amarillo*.

In addition, many toponyms are formed from the name of the host city or country or from a related geographical feature, such as *Golfo de Esmirna*, *Golfo de Génova*, *Golfo de Finlandia*, *Golfo de California*, *Golfo de Guinea*, *Golfo Pérsico*, *Golfo de Benin*, *Golfo de Túnez*, *Golfo de México*, *Golfo de Honduras*, *Golfo de Panamá*, *Gran Bahía Australiana*, *Golfo de Venecia*, *Bahía de Maputo*, *Golfo de Vizcaya*, *Golfo de Cádiz*, *Golfo de Valencia*, *Golfo del León*, *Golfo del Ganges*, *Mar Árábigo*, *Mar del Japón* (*Mar del Este*), *Mar de Noruega*, *Mar de Groenlandia*, *Mar de Filipinas*, *Mar de Tasmania*, *Mar de Irlanda*, *Mar de Creta*.

Some translations are erroneous, such as *Canal de la Mancha*, which should be *Manga*, as it comes from the French *Manche*.

It is worth noting that it is common practice in cartography to respect the Arabic word 'ras' as the generic term for 'cape' on the north coast of Africa.



*Labelling of capes in the south of Europe and the north of Africa*

## PART 4

### CARTOGRAPHIC TREATMENT OF EXONYMS ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF GEOGRAPHICAL ENTITY

The treatment of foreign toponymy on maps depends on the scale, type of map (thematic, topographic) and its intended recipients. Generally speaking, with the exception of physical features with a well-established exonym, the tendency is to use the endonym with the exonym in brackets.

However, in texts, we recommend using the Spanish exonym (as the language of the wider text) with the endonym in brackets if deemed necessary.

When labelling physical toponymy, it is essential to **differentiate the method applied to the toponymy of Spanish-speaking territories (Spain and Latin America) from that used for the rest of the world** since, for the former, the content of the label field and that of the endonym field will be the same.

In Spanish-speaking territories (Spain and Latin America), the scheme of their labelling would be as follows:

- **label:** endonym
- **exo\_es:** no value
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use

#### 1. Foreign toponymy in cartographic databases

When dealing with foreign toponymy in cartography, meticulously designed databases that ensure the labelling is as automated as possible with programming that automatically chooses one field or another from the database is essential. In other words, the label used on the map will be the content of one field or another or bring two fields together, depending on the objective or target audience of the map (linguistic context, users, scale, etc.).

In the database containing foreign toponymy, the essential fields required to automate the content of the labels are:

- ❶ Label
- ❷ Endonym
- ❸ Exonym
- ❹ Common code



- ⑤ Label? (Yes/No)
- ⑥ Type of identity
- ⑦ Hierarchical order
- ⑧ Location: continent, country, sea

- ① The **label** is the geographical name that appears on the map in accordance with the criterion applied. The decision of which field should be used as the label will depend on the map's intended audience and may not be the same for all the geographical entities, depending on whether the endonym or exonym is preferred.

The choice of label is dictated by predetermined criteria that decide whether the Spanish exonym, the endonym or a combination of both should be used.

- ② The **endonym** is the name of a geographical feature in one of the languages used in the area where the feature is located (see definition in Part 1). The international name may also appear in this field because, while the local name is not always obvious, it may be possible to determine the most commonly used term in media and cartography (even if, strictly speaking, it is not an endonym).

Should there be **more than one endonym** or exonym, the fields necessary to accommodate those names can be added to the same record. It may be that the different endonyms are used indistinctly with the same frequency or are official or standardised at the same level; in this case, if space permits, all the endonyms must be labelled without choosing one over the other. This is easier to do for linear elements but more difficult for point elements due to space constraints, in which case the criterion is usually to use the most widespread international name.

If multiple endonyms for the same place do not all have the same frequency of use, an order of preference may need to be established in order to distinguish between the preferred name, alternative name, variant and secondary name.

The use of brackets for the endonym or exonym should be dictated by the map's linguistic context or target audience. Another option is to insert tables at the edge of the map.

- ③ The **exonym**, if it exists, is the name used in Spanish for a geographical feature located outside the areas where Spanish is spoken and which differs in form from the endonym (see definition in Part 1).

## Did you know...

When drawing the maps for the ANE, collaboration with the MAEC is essential when determining the appropriateness of labelling certain geographical entities. Such is the case for countries that have not been recognised (such as Kosovo), capitals in conflict (such as Jerusalem), disputed borders (such as Western Sahara) or non-self-governing or disputed territories (such as Gibraltar or the Falkland Islands).

This field also includes hybrid toponyms formed by the specific term in the language of the endonym and the generic term in Spanish. These types of toponyms are more or less common depending on the type of geographical entity.

A recommended but highly laborious option may be to include the generic and specific terms in separate fields to further automate the process of label choice. This would enable differentiation between full exonyms (*Montañas Rocosas*) and hybrid names formed by a specific endonym and a Spanish generic that may not be considered true exonyms (*Cabo Rozewie*), but it would also entail a substantial research effort to establish the generic terms in each language.

- ④ Given that a single element may appear in multiple records with different toponyms, a field containing a **common code** for each component is essential. For example, linear features such as the various sections of the same river may have different names, which must each have their own record, but the common code is assigned to the whole of that river, linking and identifying the different sections so that regardless of the names of the sections, we know they form part of the same river (rather than being a tributary, for example). If an exonym existed for every single element, it would fulfil the function of the common code, but this is not the case. The *Amazonas* (River Amazon) is an excellent example because, depending on its course, it is given one name or another, but it is always considered to be the same river.
- ⑤ **Label?** Including a field that specifies whether the name should be labelled or not is common because we are working with geographic information systems identify the map's elements, regardless of whether they should be labelled or not.

*No* should be entered in the *label?* field when the endonym should not be labelled for reasons of space. It is understood that all the other records should be labelled, without the need to specify it expressly.
- ⑥ **Type of identity.** It is important to indicate the type of entity, as the use of exonyms, endonyms and generics differs depending on the geographical element.
- ⑦ **Hierarchical order.** When deciding whether to use the endonym or exonym, the category of the feature may be relevant.
- ⑧ **Location.** Knowing the location of an entity is crucial for determining the linguistic context: continent, country, sea, etc.

## 2. General aspects regarding the use of foreign toponymy

### 2. 1. Generic and specific terms

Place names often consist of a generic term indicating the type of geographical feature and a specific term distinguishing it in a particular way.

On the whole, the names of countries, towns and administrative divisions may be considered specific terms since any possible generic terms included in their name no longer serve to designate the type of geographical entity. In contrast, toponyms designating physical entities often consist of a specific term and a generic term with semantic value. Thus, for example, in *Rio de Janeiro*, the generic *río* (river) indicates the origin or semantic motivation behind the name but no longer serves to classify this toponym as a hydronym; in *Colorado River*, however, the generic *river* has full semantic value.

In foreign toponymy, this differentiation between generic and specific is important because it influences the treatment of toponymy in mapping intended for users in other languages. On the one hand, specific terms should, in principle, remain unchanged because they uniquely identify a geographical entity, except in the case of consolidated exonyms. On the other, generic terms can be translated into the target language to facilitate understanding. Thus, we see toponyms in which both the generic and specific parts of the name have been translated, such as *Montañas Rocosas* or *Mar del Norte*, and those where only the generic term is translated, such as *Estrecho de Kerch* o *Punta de Penmarch*.



*Translating generic and specific terms*



*Hybrid toponym: translated generic paired with the specific in endonym*

## 2. 2. Agglutination

**Agglutination** is the union of two or more elements in a single word. It is more common in other languages than in Spanish, where it mainly occurs in toponymy influenced by the spoken language and its tendency to shorten words, as in *Entrambosríos*.

In languages that combine the specific and the generic in a single word, it is possible to add the generic in Spanish and respect the compound name, even if it is redundant, as in: *Montes Drakensberg* (*berg* means 'mountain' in German). More examples can be found in the section on *Labelling bodies of water and lakes*.



*Generic agglutinated endonym and redundant addition in Spanish (berg 'montaña')*



## 2. 3. Nexuses between generic and specific terms

As a general rule, nexuses between the generic and specific terms should be avoided. E.g.: *Montes Submarinos Voyager*, *Montes Mitumba*.

However, it may be used in some instances. For example, if the specific term tells us that the element belongs to a particular location through the use of a preposition, the preposition should be in lower-case and in Spanish. E.g.: *Archipiélago de Hawái*, *Islas de Sotavento*, *Banco de Galicia*, *Cuenca Central del Pacífico*. The nexus is also maintained when sources always list the toponym with an intermediate preposition that indicates a specific characteristic of the geographical element. E.g.: *Cabo da Roca*.



Labelling of nexuses

## 3. Administrative bodies

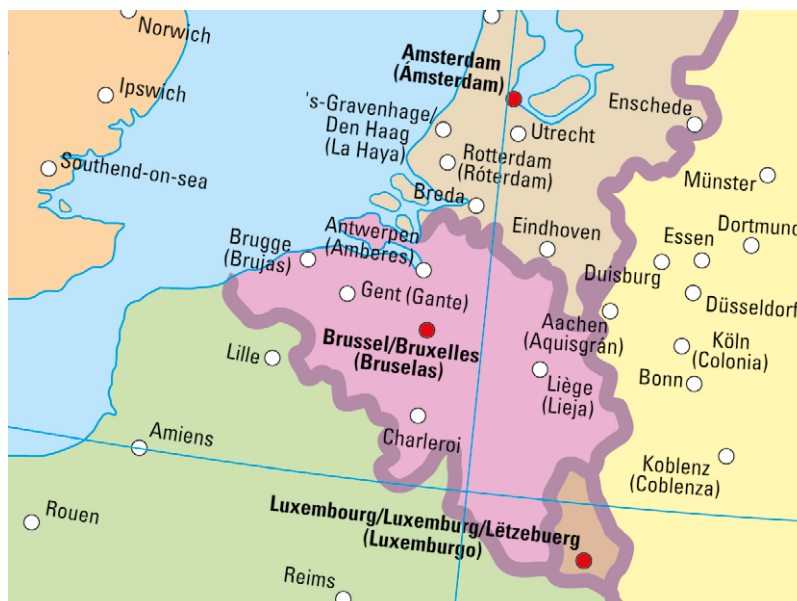
### 3. 1. Labelling of capitals and cities

For capitals and cities, the endonym or local name of the entity is labelled. Therefore, the label field will include the content of the endonym field (*endo*). Depending on the map's scale, the exonym (*exo\_es*) can either be included on the map in brackets where space permits or listed in a table of corresponding exonyms that can be inserted at the edge of the map.

If there is more than one endonym, the most frequently used should be labelled on the map, but if there is enough space, it is a good idea to label all the endonyms, particularly if they are official names. In any case, all the names will be held in the databases.

OBJECTID *	id iso2	id iso3	id pais	t ua2	notas	xx capital	rotulo	exo es	endo
193	PS	PSE	275	Ciudad	Jerusalén	Yes			
152	EH	ESH	732	Ciudad	El Aaiún	Yes			
194	IL	ISR	376	Ciudad	Jerusalén	Yes			
93	JO	JOR	400	Capital	<Null>	Yes	'Ammān	Ammán	'Ammān
52	AE	ARE	784	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Abu Dhabi		Abu Dhabi
130	NG	NGA	566	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Abuja		Abuja
70	GH	GHA	288	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Accra		Accra
142	QA	QAT	634	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Ad Daw'hah	Doha	Ad Daw'hah
60	ET	ETH	231	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Addis Abeba/Addis Ababa	Addis Abeba	Addis Abeba/Addis Ababa
8	DZ	DZA	012	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Al Jazā'ir	Argel	Al Jazā'ir
167	SD	SDN	736	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Al Khurūm	Jartum	Al Khurūm
98	KW	KWT	414	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Al Kuwayt	Kuwait	Al Kuwayt
15	BH	BHR	048	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Al Manāmah	Manama	Al Manāmah
50	EG	EGY	818	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Al Qāhirah	El Cairo	Al Qāhirah
134	NL	NLD	528	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Amsterdam	Ámsterdam	Amsterdam
4	AD	AND	020	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Andorra la Vella		Andorra la Vella
181	TR	TUR	792	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Ankara		Ankara
109	MG	MDG	450	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Antananarivo		Antananarivo
153	WS	WSM	882	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Apia		Apia
115	MA	MAR	504	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Ar Ribāt	Rabat	Ar Ribāt
7	SA	SAU	682	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Ar Riyād	Riad	Ar Riyād
180	TM	TKM	795	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Aşgabat	Aşgabat	Aşgabat
53	ER	ERI	232	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Asmarah/Asmera	Asmara	Asmarah/Asmera
138	PY	PRY	600	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Asunción		Asunción
72	GR	GRC	300	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Athina	Atenas	Athina
84	IQ	IRQ	368	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Baghdād	Bagdad	Baghdād
97	KI	KIR	296	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Bairiki		Bairiki
13	AZ	AZE	031	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Bakı	Bakú	Bakı
113	ML	MLI	466	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Bamako		Bamako
27	BN	BRN	096	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Bandar Seri Begawan		Bandar Seri Begawan
144	CF	CAF	140	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Bangui		Bangui
68	GM	GMB	270	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Banjul		Banjul
154	KN	KNA	659	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Basseterre		Basseterre
102	LB	LBN	422	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Bayrūt	Beirut	Bayrūt
37	CN	CHN	156	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Beijing	Pekin	Beijing
19	BZ	BLZ	084	Capital	<Null>	Yes	Belmopan		Belmopan

Extract of capitals from a geo-referenced database



Labelling of cities in Europe

### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content of this field is the endonym, i.e. the *endo* field
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym, to be labelled in brackets or included in a separate table
- **endo:** endonym

### 3.2. Labelling of countries

Spanish exonyms for countries are labelled. Using standardised exonyms in English is only recommended for maps with a multilingual target audience.

#### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** contains the same content as *exo\_es*
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym

The use of endonyms and exonyms for cities is inconsistent; for example, *Gottteborg* or *Gottemburgo* and *Frankfurt am Main* or *Fráncfort del Meno* are used interchangeably, depending on the context. For this reason, and in the interest of applying a uniform criterion, the endonym should always be used.

However, the names of countries in Spanish are used in all spheres. Moreover, in cartography, using the Spanish name is advisable because it makes it easier for map users to identify the name of the country to which islands and other territories belong (the country name appears in brackets).

## 4. Orography and landscape

### 4. 1. Labelling features of the relief

For orographic features (mountain systems, depressions, basins, plains, plateaus), the preferred cartographic practice is to label the Spanish exonym (or endonym in Spanish-speaking countries: *Cáucaso*, *Montes Urales*, *Andes*) or the international name (*Himalaya*, *Altai*, *Hindu Kush*, *Pamir*).

Logically, Spanish exonyms for major mountains and toponyms formed by terms indicating the location (*Cordillera del Líbano*, *Montañas Transantárticas*) are common.

The Spanish exonym may be complete (*Montañas Rocosas*, *Montes Pónticos*) or a hybrid toponym formed by the endonym of the specific term with the generic term in Spanish. But, as has been pointed out, the translation of the generic should, in principle, be limited to major features (*Macizo de Tibesti*) and toponyms where a Spanish generic is necessary to facilitate the users' understanding of the type of entity (*Altiplano de Borborema*).

For toponyms that do not fall into the above categories, the full endonym or local name must be respected for both the generic and the specific term. It should be noted that in the physical toponymy of Africa, the use of generics in Spanish is more frequent due to the lack of knowledge of local forms and to avoid the use of colonial languages (English, French, German), as in *Massif du Tibesti*.



Labelling of the relief in Asia

#### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content is the same as **exo\_es** if it exists. If not, it will contain the content in the **endo** field
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym if it exists (*Montañas Rocosas*) or the endonym for the specific term paired with the generic in Spanish **for major features** (*Macizo de Tibesti*) and where it is deemed necessary to translate or add a Spanish generic to facilitate users' understanding of the type of entity
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use

## 4. 2. Labelling peaks

For peaks and other elevations, the label content is the endonym (*endo*) followed by the exonym in Spanish in brackets if there is one (*Agri Dagi (Monte Ararat)*). This criterion is the same as that observed for linear hydrography and cities. The endonym can be the local name or an international name in widespread use.

In general, the generic terms used to describe peaks are omitted (*Everest*, *Elbrus*, *Aconcagua*, *Toubkal*) unless the specific term is an adjective (*Mont Blanc*, *Monte Rosa*), has a particular connotation (volcano, *tozal* [hill with a flat extension of land on top]...), or if it always appears together with the specific term in the sources consulted.



#### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content is the endonym (*endo*) followed by the exonym in Spanish in brackets if it exists
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use

*Labelling of the peaks in Europe*

### 4. 3. Labelling the major phytoclimatic regions

For phytoclimatic territories (desert, steppe, tundra, marshland, savannahs) in Spanish-speaking countries, the endonym is used. For those in non-Spanish-speaking countries, the Spanish exonym is used if it exists and, if not, the endonym, which, as for other entities, may be an international name in widespread use.

For these types of geographical entities, it may be preferable to use Spanish for the generic terms because Spanish-speaking users may find the descriptive terms used in the endonyms, which refer to the region's climate and vegetation, challenging to understand.



*Labelling of phytoclimatic regions*



However, some generic terms should not be translated due to the specificity of their meaning and the lack of an equivalent term in Spanish, such as *hamada* and *erg* in Morocco: rocky or stony desert and sandy desert, respectively (*Gran Erg Oriental*, *Hamada del Drâa*). The habitual use of these generic terms has led to the inclusion of the word *hamada* in the *Diccionario de la lengua española* (RAE). The term *idehan*, meaning ‘arena fina’ (fine sand) (*Idehan Ubari*), should also be respected. In all three cases, the forms adapted to Spanish are used rather than the literal transliteration (*Hamādat*, *Idhān*).



Labelling of erg

#### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content is the same as *exo\_es* if it exists. If not, the endonym is used
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym or the endonym for the specific term with the generic term in Spanish
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use

## 5. Continental hydrography

### 5. 1. Labelling of watercourses

For watercourses, the endonym is labelled, followed by the Spanish exonym in brackets if one exists. If the form of the endonym in a given place is unclear, only the exonym (*Nilo*) is labelled, assuming there is one. If there is no exonym, the name most widely used internationally (*Amazonas*) is used.

If the endonym is formed by two official designations in the same territory, both names are included and separated by a slash (*Clutha/Mata-Au*; in English and Maori, both official languages). This format is also used for certain border rivers, such as the *Duero*, whose section along the border between Spain and Portugal is labelled with both official endonyms separated by a slash (*Duero/Douro*).



Use of endonym and exonym for rivers shared with Portugal



Labelling of rivers with two official names in New Zealand

For rivers, which are usually clearly identifiable elements on a map, the generic is generally omitted, and only the specific term is included in the label field. It is important to point out that in order to meet this criterion, ideally, a study of the generic terms for 'río' and their inflectional and compositional nature in different languages would need to be carried out, which is why it is more common to omit the generic term in languages that are closer to Spanish, whether due to their origin or history (*rivière, fiume, river...*). In addition, the toponyms used in various cartographic sources are consulted to determine whether isolated specific terms suffice. Thus, for river names that are used internationally in their complete form, such as the river *Huang Hé* (*río Amarillo* in Spanish and *Yellow River* in English) in China, the generic *Hé*, meaning 'río' (river), should not be omitted.

If several endonyms exist, the one used in the location of the section in question is labelled, with the exonym in brackets, as happens for the *Danubio*:

exo es	endo	rotulo	xx codigo com	se rotula
Danubio	<Null>	Dunav/Dunărea	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Dunav/Dunărea	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunărea	Dunărea (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Dunav/Dunărea	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Dunav	Dunav (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Duna	Duna (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Dunaj /Duna	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Dunaj /Duna	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Dunaj /Duna	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Danubio	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Danubio	227	<Null>
Danubio	<Null>	Danubio	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>
Danubio	Donau	Donau (Danubio)	227	<Null>

*Treatment of the Danube in a geo-referenced database*



If the form of the endonym is unclear, the *label* field contains the exonym, where one exists, or the name most widely used internationally, such as *Amazonas* and *Orange*, which are the names used in international contexts as opposed to the local forms.

If the endonym in a single territory consists of two official designations, both names are included and separated by a slash, such as *Clutha/Mata-Au*.

objectid *	t rio	exo es	endo	rotulo	xx codigo comun	se rotula
193	Primer orden		Apurímac	Apurímac	622	<Null>
256	Primer orden		Ucayali	Ucayali	622	<Null>
264	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
266	Tercer orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
269	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
270	Tercer orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
272	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
273	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
274	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
279	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
280	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
281	Tercer orden		Solimões	Solimões (Amazonas)	622	<Null>
282	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
285	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
286	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
287	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
293	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
299	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
302	Cuarto orden		Amazonas	Amazonas	622	<Null>
2255	Primer orden		Ene	Ene	622	<Null>
2256	Primer orden		Tambo	Tambo	622	<Null>

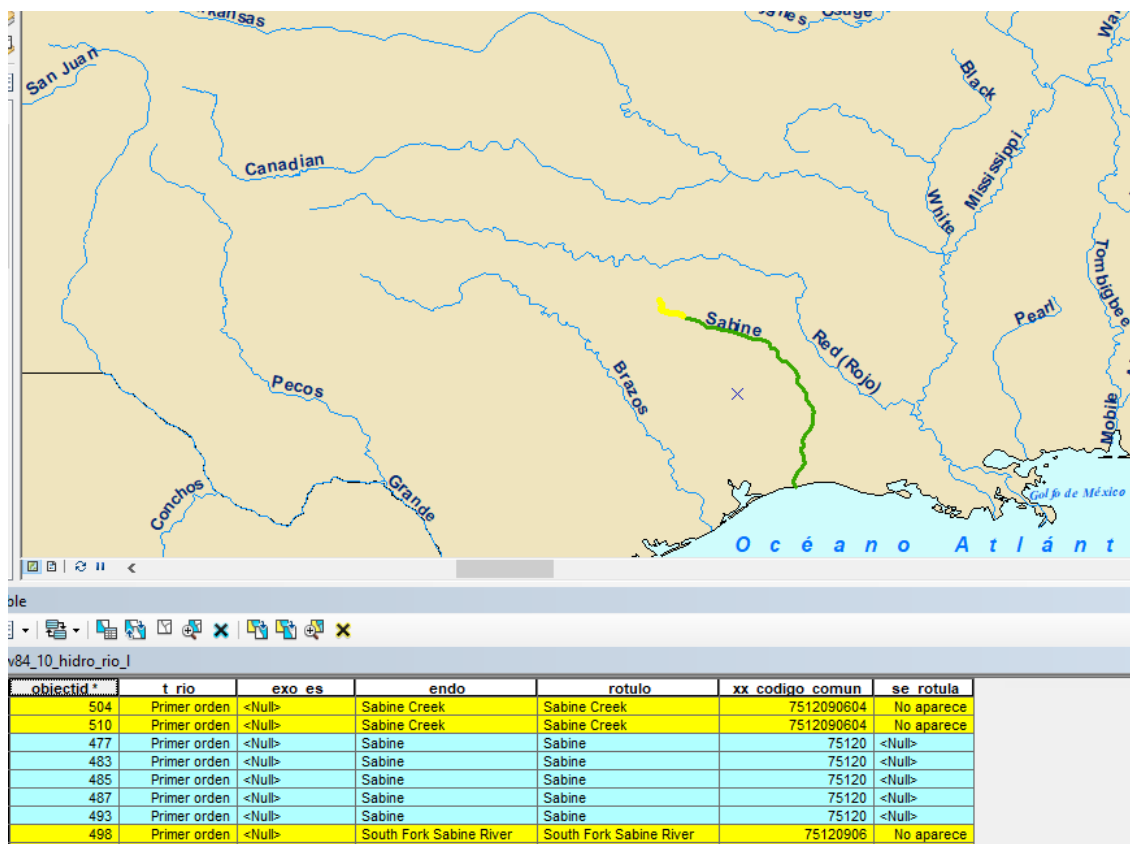
*The usefulness of the common code is highlighted by this table reflecting the labelling of the Amazon*

When labelling all the endonyms is inadvisable because it would make the map too hard to read, one can opt to use the most internationally used endonym, as happens for the *Volta* and its tributaries. This example also shows how the common code works: the initial digits correspond to the main river, and those that follow identify the tributary.

objectid *	t rio	exo es	endo	rotulo	xx codigo comun	se rotula
2618	Segundo orden	<Null>	Volta	Volta	144	<Null>
2634	Segundo orden	<Null>	Volta	Volta	144	<Null>
2649	Segundo orden	null	Volta	Volta	144	<Null>
2699	Primer orden	Volta Blanco	White Volta / Nakanbé	White Volta (Volta Blanco)	1444	<Null>
2664	Primer orden	Volta Blanco	White Volta / Nakanbé	White Volta (Volta Blanco)	1444	<Null>
2653	Primer orden	Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhon	Black Volta (Volta Negro)	1445	<Null>
2654	Primer orden	Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhon	Black Volta (Volta Negro)	1445	<Null>
2673	Primer orden	Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhon	Black Volta (Volta Negro)	1445	<Null>
2696	Primer orden	Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhon	Black Volta (Volta Negro)	1445	<Null>
2702	Primer orden	Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhon	Black Volta (Volta Negro)	1445	<Null>
2736	Primer orden	Volta Negro	Black Volta/Mouhon	Black Volta (Volta Negro)	1445	<Null>

*International use for lineal hydrography in databases*

Sometimes short rivers have several names, and it is impossible to label all the stretches due to a lack of space; in this case, *No* should be entered in the *Label?* column to clarify that the names exist but are not labelled.

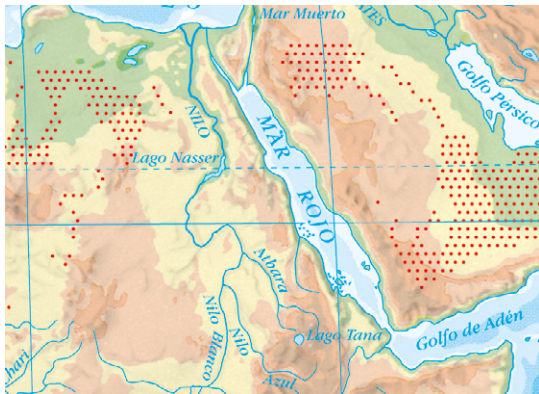


The “Label?” column indicates whether the name of the river section should be labelled or not. The stretch of river in yellow has a different name from the stretch of river in green, despite both being part of the same river. However, not all the names are labelled due to the limited space.



If there are several endonyms, the local endonym for each section is used, with the Spanish exonym in brackets. This method is used, for example, with the *Tigris*: *Dijlah* (in Arabic for the stretches in Iraq and Syria) and *Dicle* (in Turkish for the stretch in Turkey). However, at one point, the *Tigris* acts as a triple natural border between Turkey, Syria and Iraq, providing an excellent example of why river borders are sometimes labelled only with the exonym, in this case, *Tigris*, which also happens to be the most widely used international name. The *Éufrates* is another example: *Firat* (in Turkey) and *Al-Furat* (in Iraq and Syria).

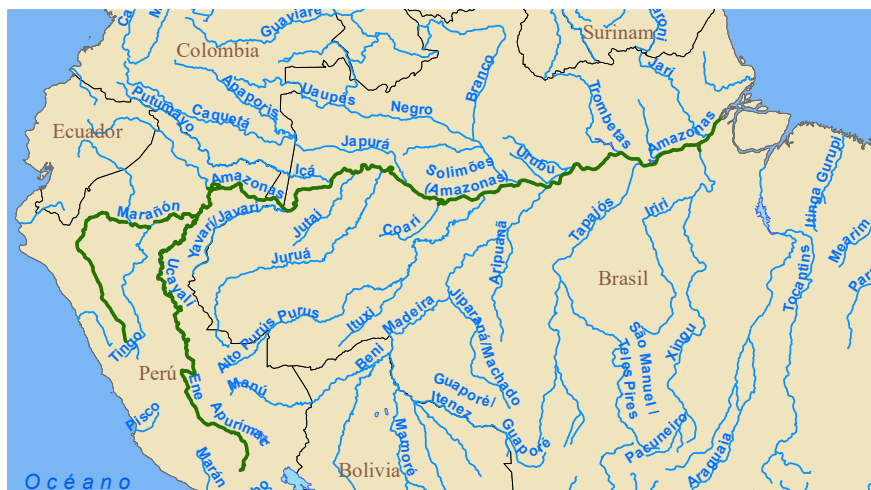
Labelling of rivers in Asia



Labelling of the River Nile and its tributaries

If the form of the endonym in a given place is unclear, only the exonym (*Nilo*) is labelled, assuming there is one. If there is no exonym, the name most widely used internationally (*Amazonas*) is used. The same applies if the river is short but has multiple names, as happens with the *Jordán* river (*Nahr al-Urdunn* in Arabic; *Nahar ha-Yarden* in Hebrew; also known as *Nahr Al Sharieat* and even by a name in use in ancient Syriac).

A paradigmatic example is the *Amazonas*, a river that receives various names along its course, including the following: *Apurímac*, *Ene*, *Tambo*, *Ucayali*, *Marañón* and *Amazonas*. When the river enters Brazil, it is called the *Solimões* river for an extended stretch and then reverts to the name *Amazonas* at its confluence with the *Negro* river. The names used to identify the different stretches of the river are not universally agreed upon, nor is its source, which some experts place at the confluence of the *Ucayali* and the *Marañón*. Not all the names given to the *Amazonas* are perfectly defined; the vast territory it flows through hosts many different languages and cultures, and it has been given a variety of proper nouns. As it would be impossible to use all the names, *Amazonas* is also labelled along the stretches where it has two or three different names.



Labelling of the Amazon River

- **label:** endonym and **exo\_es**, if available, in brackets
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use

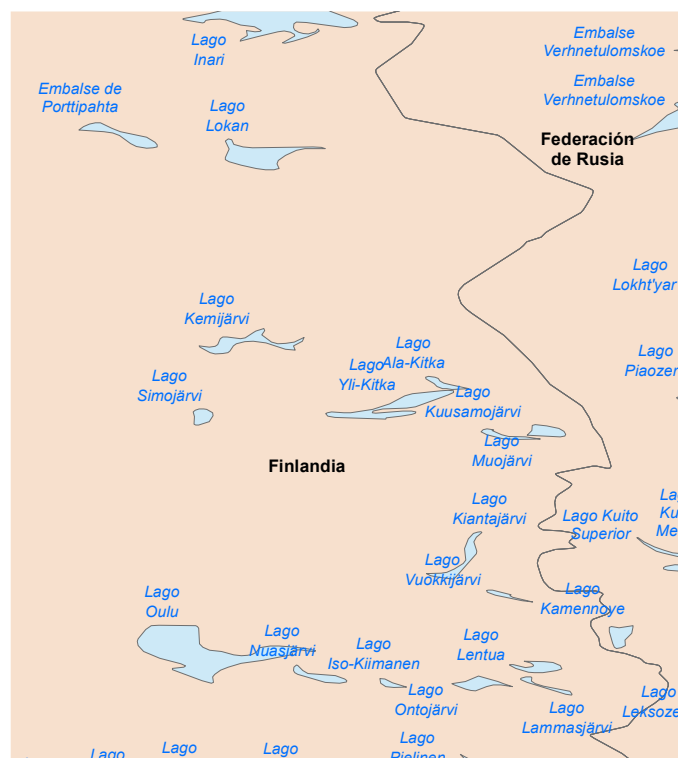
## 5. 2. Labelling bodies of water

Bodies of water (lakes, lagoons, reservoirs, salt lakes, salt pans, glaciers, marshlands, swamps) in Spanish-speaking countries are labelled with the endonym, while those in non-Spanish-speaking countries use the Spanish exonym if there is one (*Lago Constanza*, *Gran Lago de los Esclavos*). Alternatively, the endonym for the specific term paired with the generic term in Spanish is used.



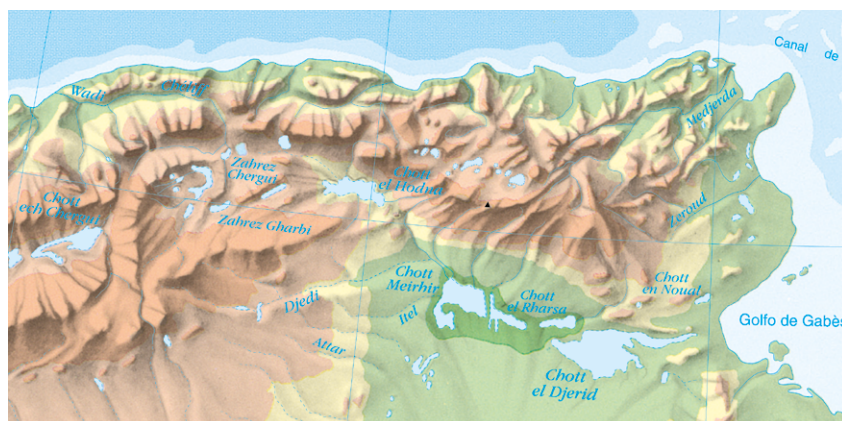
Labelling of the lakes in Canada

In the case of languages with an agglutinated generic term, the generic may be repeated in Spanish, even if redundant, to facilitate understanding of the type of geographical entity in question for Spanish-speaking map users. E.g., *Lago Kemijärvi* and *Lago Lovozero*. (*järvi* means lake in Finnish, and *ozero* is lake in Russian). However, for well-established exonyms, omitting the agglutinated generic term is recommended: *Lago Inari* (*Inarijärvi* in Finnish).



*Labelling of the lakes in Finland and the Russian Federation*

On other occasions, the generic cannot be translated because of its precise connotations and is left in its original form, with romanisation if necessary. This is the case for the saline lakes called *chott* (according to the French spelling) in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, e.g., *Chott el Djerid* and *Chott Meirhir*.



*Labelling of the lakes in North Africa*

### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content is the same as *exo\_es*, if it exists. If not, the endonym is used
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym. Alternatively, use the endonym for the specific term with the generic term in Spanish
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use



## 6. Seas and the coast

### 6. 1. Labelling of islands

Islands and archipelagos are labelled with the Spanish exonym if it exists and is in force and with the endonym if they belong to Spanish-speaking countries. Alternatively, they are labelled with the specific term in endonym, without the generic term in the case of islands belonging to an archipelago, and with the generic term in the case of groups of islands or archipelagos. Exceptionally, the generic is maintained if the specific term is an adjective (*Isla Grande*) or a descriptive (*Isla Norte*), or in the case of solitary islands better known in their complete form (*Isla de Pascua*).

Island names in familiar languages (French, Portuguese, English, Italian) tend to remain in their original language or take a form closer to the endonym, like *Madeira*, *Jan Mayen*, *São Pedro* and *São Paulo*, which are used instead of their traditional historical names: *Madera*, *Juan Mayen*, *San Pedro* and *San Pablo*.

If an island has a consolidated exonym, it is respected, as in the case of *Martinica* and *Guadalupe*. Endonyms and exonyms frequently coexist, especially when the spelling of the endonym is challenging the Spanish speakers, as in *Azores* (*Açores*), *Curazao* (*Curaçao*).

With regard to the Greek islands, the changes are due to the increasing use of Greek endonyms transliterated using the current standardised systems, but as we have already explained, these names should not be considered exonyms. However, many traditional exonyms from earlier romanisations remain in widespread use: *Cícladas*, *Corfú*, *Creta*. It may be deemed appropriate to label the specific term using the currently standardised romanisation and leave the former Spanish name derived from earlier systems in brackets, e.g., *Isla Kíthira* (*Citera*).

#### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content is the same as *exo\_es* if it exists. If not, the endonym is used
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym or endonym for the specific term with the generic in Spanish unless the specific is an adjective, a descriptive, or the island in question is a solitary island well known by the complete form of its name
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use



*Labelling of islands in New Zealand and Australia*

## 6. 2. Labelling of coastal features

For coastal features (capes, beaches, gulfs, bays, coves), the exonym is labelled where one exists, and if not, the endonym for the specific term with the generic term in Spanish is used **for major features**. If the descriptive term of the endonym is easily understandable, it should be translated into Spanish. If there is no generic in Spanish (e.g., *Kattegat*) or the generic term has no translation, this field remains empty. Translating generic terms whose meaning is not obvious to Spanish users is recommended.

### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** the content is the same as **exo\_es** if it exists. If not, the endonym is used
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym or the endonym for the specific term with the generic term in Spanish
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use



*Labelling of coastal features in the Caribbean*

### 6. 3. Labelling of seas and oceans

Seas and oceans have different names in different countries. The UNGEGN has debated whether these names should be considered endonyms or exonyms in relation to the umbrella term (Jordan 2017), usually in English, which is used in international communication.

In other words, is the name given in a particular language to a part of a geographical entity shared by several sovereignties considered to refer to the whole entity or only to a part of it? Strictly speaking, it refers only to the part where that language is spoken, so when that local name is used to refer to the whole entity, it is an exonym.

The names of seas and oceans are standardised internationally by the IHO (International Hydrographic Organisation). The names of entities that do not have an exonym in Spanish are taken from this publication, translating any obvious generics (IHO, 2002). Should there be any controversy, the standardised forms used in the sovereign countries sharing the sea or ocean are labelled. A good example of this situation is the *Mar del Japón*, whose name is disputed by the Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of Korea and Japan due to the existence of multiple names: *Mar del Japón*, *Mar de Korea*,



*Mar del Este, Mar Oriental.* Currently, the proposed names are *Mar del Japón* (Japan) and *Mar del Este* (North Korea and South Korea), both of which are used in the National Atlas of Spain.

**Labelling scheme:**

- **label:** contains the same content as *exo\_es*
- **exo\_es:** in Spanish where one exists; otherwise, the endonym with the Spanish generic terms for '*mar*' (sea) and '*océano*' (ocean)
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use



*Dual name labelling (Mar del Japón and Mar del Este) due to shared sovereignty*

## 6. 4. Labelling of the submarine relief

For the labelling of underwater toponymy, it is essential to consult the IHO publication, which standardises the preferred form in Spanish for all the generic terms relating to underwater relief. They are defined in English and accompanied by their corresponding terms in different languages.

The definitions are helpful in establishing the hierarchy and selection of these features because they indicate the size or belonging of each type of entity to a superior one (IHO, 2013).



*Labelling of the submarine relief*

### Labelling scheme:

- **label:** contains the same content as **exo\_es**
- **exo\_es:** Spanish exonym where one exists or the endonym for the specific term with the standardised generic term in Spanish
- **endo:** endonym. In exceptional cases, this field may contain an international name in widespread use

## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

As we have seen in the previous pages, several question marks hang over the use of exonyms (origin, evolution, use, standardisation...), but when it comes to classifying a place name as an exonym, the most controversial points are the following:

### Translation of the generic term

Translating the generic term to form a compound toponym consisting of a generic term paired with a specific term gives rise to hybrid toponyms like *Islas Pitcairn* and *Islas Madeira*. These forms serve as a tool to facilitate understanding of the type of geographical entity designated by the toponym and, as such, according to many experts, should not be considered exonyms.

In our view, while not exonyms in the strictest sense of the word, neither are they endonyms; therefore, although they should not be included in lists of exonyms issued at international level, they should be treated differently in databases to differentiate them from full endonyms.

### Articles and diacritical marks

The omission or addition of a diacritical mark or article is another issue that frequently leads to debate when classifying a name as an exonym. We believe that diacritics and articles are indeed a distinguishing feature of many languages and, therefore, new forms that have been modified in these respects should be considered exonyms.

### Transliteration or automatic writing in another alphabet

Transliteration, which allows people to read names written in other languages, gives rise to new terms governed by fixed rules on the correspondence of letters and signs. Nonetheless, names derived from a standardised transliteration should not be considered exonyms as they leave no doubt as to the form of the endonym and can easily be converted back into the language of origin. Moreover, if all the names derived from transliteration to a target language were to be considered exonyms, the goal of reducing exonyms would be unnecessary. We would argue, therefore, that merely converting writing does not create an exonym, even if the process often implies a loss of information compared to the endonym.

Standard transliteration does not result in an exonym but an exograph, which only differs from the endonym in the alphabet used to write it. That said, several questions remain:

- What happens with obsolete transliterations? Since they no longer correspond to the endonym because they use a non-standardised system, we could argue that they are exonyms. For example, the names *Khíos* and *Quíos* use obsolete transliterations of the Greek letter X, which is now transliterated to the digraph *ch*.

- What about transliterations that have been modified by morphological coordination? In Greek toponymy for island, region, archipelago, etc., transliterated names often change their ending to agree in gender and number with the type of geographical element they designate. In these cases, we could also argue that the modifications make them exonyms because their correspondence with the endonym is not exact. An example of this is the use of the name *Espóradas* instead of the literal *Espórades* from the Greek *Σποράδες*, where agreement with the generic term *islas* (islands) has modified the transliteration.

## Phonetic transcription or adaptation

Forms created in the target language by means of a phonetic transcription system must be considered exonyms because they cannot be accurately reconverted to the endonym. Such as *Varsovia* (*Warszawa*).

## Substitution of a letter in the target language

Substituting certain letters used in the source language for others in the target language does indeed create an exonym because it results in a name that is not a literal transliteration. Orthographic adaptation is often seen in the creation of exonyms and responds to the need to reproduce the pronunciation of the endonym. In Spanish, as we have already mentioned, it happens with names like *Rwanda*, which becomes *Ruanda*.

In this context, Peeter Päll points to the fact that in the Albanian, Latvian and Lithuanian languages the adaptation of foreign names is almost universal for various grammatical reasons, which begs the question of whether it is right to classify adapted names as exonyms. According to some experts, it would be better to consider these names as ‘*rendered endonyms*’ because they do not belong to the target language, nor are they true exonyms in the strictest sense of the word (Peeter Päll, 2014).

## Differing pronunciations of the same form

Even if the written form used in a target language is identical to that of the source language, speakers will inevitably adapt the phonetics of these names to the sounds of their language. These new pronunciations of forms that are spelt the same can be called exophones; names that differ from endonyms in nothing other than their pronunciation, as in *Fiji* and *Djibouti*, whose letter *j* and digraph *dj* are pronounced as *y* in Spanish.

## International names

Names recommended for international use by international organisations, generally in English, such as the names of countries compiled by the UNGEGN and the names of seas and oceans compiled by the IHO, should be considered exonyms if they do not belong to the lexicon of the target language. Evidently, the different territories with a linguistic identity that share a geographical element may each have their own endonym to describe it.

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### Abbreviation and acronyms used


<b>ANE</b>	National Atlas of Spain
<b>IGN</b>	National Geographic Institute of Spain
<b>IHO</b>	International Hydrographic Organisation
<b>ISO</b>	International Organization for Standardization
<b>MAEC</b>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation
<b>RAE</b>	Royal Spanish Academy
<b>UNGEGN</b>	United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Grupo de Expertos de las Naciones Unidas en Nombres Geográficos, in Spanish.





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**This publication provides an overview of exonyms in Spanish. It reflects the research carried out over of years of experience as well as the debates, trends and usage criteria for exonyms in Spanish, particularly in regard to their use in maps. It also shows how doubts and issues are resolved when dealing with foreign toponymy at the National Atlas of Spain (ANE)**