

Romano-Hellenic Division

Toponymy and Cartography between History and Geography

The Romano-Hellenic Division (RHD) of the United Nations Group on Geographical Names (UNEGGN) organized its second International Scientific Symposium in Venezia [Venice], Italia [Italy], from 26th to 28th September 2018, focused on “Toponymy and Cartography between History and Geography”.



Some of the participants in the symposium “Toponymy and Cartography between History and Geography”, held in Venezia [Venice] Italia, from 26th to 28th September 2018.

The symposium was prepared in close cooperation with the Italian Geographic Military Institute (IGMI), the Veneto region and the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti under the auspices of the Italian scientific Associations of Cartography and Geography and with the precious contribution of the Scientific Committee, composed of:

- Andrea Cantile, UNEGGN-RHD, IGMI, University of Firenze (Italia)
- Helen Kerfoot, Honorary Chair of the UNEGGN (Canada)
- Peter Jordan, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Institut für Stadt und Regionalforschung (Österreich).
- Carla Marcato, University of Udine, Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti (Italia)
- Alberto Nocentini, University of Firenze, Accademia della Crusca (Italia)
- Cosimo Palagiano, Sapienza - University of Roma, Accademia dei Lincei (Italia).

The symposium started with a special session, chaired by Eng. Maurizio De Gennaro from the Veneto region (Italia) and focused on the project titled “The Italian Geographic Military Institute and the Veneto Region for a new geographical names database”. Welcome speeches and the introductory remarks were given by:

- Dr. Cristiano Corazzari, Veneto’s Regional Minister of Territory, Culture and Security (Italia);

- Ms. Helen Kerfoot, Honorary Chair of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (Canada);
- Maj. Gen. Pietro Tornabene, Commander of the IGMI (Italia);
- Prof. Gherardo Ortalli, President of the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti (Italia);
- Prof. Giuseppe Scanu, President of the Italian Association of Cartography and
- Prof. Elena Dai Prà, on behalf of Prof. Carla Masetti, Chairperson of the Italian Centre for Historical-Geographical Studies.

Two presentations were included in this special session: the first one by Andrea Cantile, titled “The standardization of geographical names in Italy and the joint project IGMI - Veneto region”, and the second one by Franco Alberti *et alii*, Responsible for urban and regional planning in the Veneto region, titled “The Italian Geographic Military Institute and the Veneto region for a new geographical names database”.

The first session of the main symposium, chaired by Andrea Cantile, was structured as follows:

- Andrea Cantile (Italia), *Toponymy and Cartography between History and Geography*;
- Andreas Hadjiraftis, President of Permanent Committee of the Standardisation of Geographical Names of Cyprus (Kýpros), *Modern maps, Geographic Information Systems and toponymy in Cyprus*.
- Vania de Oliveira Nagem, Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (Brasil), *State of the art on the standardization of geographical names in Brazil*;
- Gil Tiago, University of Brasilia (Brasil) and Vinicius Maluly Université de la Rochelle (France), *The significance of native experience in the creation of colonial toponymy in the Portuguese America*;
- Cosimo Palagiano, Sapienza Università di Roma, Accademia dei Lincei (Italia), *The activity of the Joint Commission on Toponymy, International Geographical Union – International Cartographic Association*;
- Helen Kerfoot, Honorary Chair of the UNEGGN (Canada), *Where are you flying? On-board airline magazines and their route map toponymy*.
- Alberto Nocentini, University of Firenze, Accademia della Crusca (Italia), *Preservation vs. innovation in the toponymy of Europe*;
- Laura Cassi, University of Firenze (Italia), *Territorial Identity and Place Names*;
- Andrea Masturzo, University of Bergamo (Italia), *Toponymy and colonization, the case of Italian colonial villages in Libya*;
- Stefano Piastra, Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna (Italia), *Urban Toponymy in Shanghai and Tianjin before the Rise of the People’s Republic of China. The Presence of Italian Road Names*.

The second session, chaired by Laura Cassi, University of Firenze (Italia), was structured as follows:



- Élisabeth Calvarin, Chair of the UNGEEN French-speaking Division (France), Dialectical terms and geographical locations;
- Lorenzon Arianna (Italia), Vernacular places names in the Venetian cartography (XVII-XVIII century): a case study;
- Silvia Siniscalchi, University of Salerno (Italia), The transformations of the place names of Naples in historical and contemporary cartography, between landscape changes and territorial identity;
- Furio Ciciliot, Società Savonese di Storia Patria – Progetto Toponomastica Storica (Italia), The precise toponymy of descriptive cadastre (before XVIII Century).
- Giuseppe Scanu (Coordinator), Cinzia Podda, Caterina Madau, Salvatore Lampreu, University of Sassari (Italia), Geo-cartographic aspects of the toponymy of Sardinia between conservation and enhancement;
- Elena Dai Prà, University of Trento (Italia), Place names as sources to identify landslide risk areas: a diachronic approach to the Trentino case study;
- Ayokunmi Ojebode, Redeemer's University, Ede, Osun State (Nigeria), Toponymy, History and Geographical System of Selected Place Names in the Cognomen of the Alaafin of Oyo.

The third session, chaired by Élisabeth Calvarin, Chair of the UNGEEN French-speaking Division (France), was structured as follows:

- Marcos Pavo Lopez, Instituto Geográfico Nacional (España), *A gazetteer in the 2nd century: Claudius Ptolemy's Geographia*;
- Marco Martin, Geography and Historiography in Antiquity (Italia), The greek ethnonym Romanoï in the Administrando Imperio of Constantine Porphyrogenitus;
- Viviana Ferrario, Università IUAV - Venezia (Italia), 19th Century cadastres as a source for the toponymy of the Venetian region;

- Sergio Pinna, Massimiliano Grava, Giancarlo Macchi Janica, Universities of Pisa and Siena (Italia), The cadastral particle toponymy of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany;
- Nicola Gabellieri, University of Trento (Italia), Place names as historical products: boundary conflicts and toponyms disputes in XVIII c. Liguria.
- Lucrezia Iacuzzi, Martina Simeone, University of Firenze (Italia), Phitonyms, phitotonyms and landscape's history. *The case of the municipalities of Borgo San Lorenzo and Vicchio*.

Closing remarks and final greetings were pronounced at the end by Maj. Gen. Pietro Tornabene, Commander of the IGMI, Dr. Umberto Trivelloni, Responsible for regional mapping and GIS of Veneto region, Helen Kerfoot, Honorary Chair of UNGEEN, and Andrea Cantile.

During these three days, the event was attended by over one hundred people, technicians, experts and scholars (geographers, linguists, historians, architects, planners and cartographers) from various countries.

The symposium was enlivened by a tour of the city to the viewpoint of the San Marco basin, led by Mrs. Barbara Brogi (IGMI), and a visit to the Venetian art museum "Gallerie dell'Accademia".

IGMI plans to publish the papers from the symposium during the coming year.

Andrea Cantile

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